

DAILY REPORT

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SOLUTIONS SOUGHT TO STEM DOLLAR'S FALL

Miyazawa Hints at Steps

OW301411 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 30 KYODO -- Japan may take emergency measures, including a limit on capital transactions if necessary, to keep the U.S. dollar from falling further against the yen, Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa hinted Monday.

Miyazawa told an impromptu press conference that he and his counterparts from the United States, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy will discuss with their Central Bank chiefs steps to prevent the dollar's further depreciation in Washington April 8.

"The yen's dramatic appreciation worries not only Japan but also other countries as well," Miyazawa told reporters.

He said a delay in passing the fiscal 1987 budget by the Japanese parliament is one reason for the yen's surge in value against the dollar.

Miyazawa's vague hint that the Japanese Government may move to control capital transactions or lower the Bank of Japan's key discount rate as a step to stop the dollar's freefall was frantically denied by the central bank itself.

A Bank of Japan official ruled out such possibilities, arguing the present exchange rate fluctuations do not amount to a crisis warranting such emergency steps.

He also emphasized that Japan will not win international consensus on such extraordinary measures when the nation is under pressure to open up its financial and capital markets.

The dollar closed at an all-time low of 146.20 yen on the Tokyo foreign exchange market Monday, down 2.80 yen from Friday.

Earlier in the day, Miyazawa acknowledged that Japan's failure to fully keep earlier promises to spur domestic demand was partly responsible for the yen's sharp upturn.

Under the nation's Foreign Currency Control Law, the finance minister has authority to curb capital flows temporarily. But since implementation of the regulation in 1980 no finance minister has exercised the prerogative.

Such a drastic step, antagonists warned, will deter capital flow into the United States and cause a rise in interest rates or worse an economic slowdown in the U.S., Japan's biggest and most important trading partner..

More realistically, the possibility of another cut in the Bank of Japan's official discount rate -- currently at a postwar low of 2.5 percent -- has emerged as a more feasible step.

The issue will be a subject of discussion in talks between Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Miyazawa before the latter leaves for the U.S.

Despite repeated intervention by the Bank of Japan and similar moves by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board and the Bank of England, the dollar's slide has not been halted.

Yet, Finance Ministry sources here said monetary authorities of these and other countries may look into the possibility of widening their intervention funds via a swap pact.

Sumita on Market Intervention

OW300413 Tokyo KYODO in English 0407 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 30 KYODO -- Satoshi Sumita, governor of the Bank of Japan, stressed Monday that he would like to stabilize the yen-dollar exchange rate through concerted market intervention by major industrial nations.

On the yen's sudden spurt against the dollar, Sumita said he was very wary about the moves on the currency market since last week and wants to make efforts to stabilize them by all possible means through close joint intervention by key nations.

But Sumita also said he does not believe that the dollar will continue an uninterrupted downswing, given a cautious mood in the market over the too rapid pace of the dollar's decline.

The currency market is affected by even a small piece of news and the Japan-U.S. trade friction over semiconductor issues has apparently weighted heavily on the market, he said.

Sumita made the remarks to a meeting of the lower house Budget Committee Monday morning.

On the possibility of another cut in Japan's official discount rate as a means to boost domestic demand, he was cautious and said, "We have to be watchful so that the present loose monetary policy may not sow the seeds of inflation in the future."

Keidanren To Hold Talks

OW301243 Tokyo KYODO in English 1237 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 30 KYODO -- Keidanren, Japan's most influential business group, will hold its emergency meeting in more than a decade early next week to discuss ways to cope with the strong yen.

A spokesman for Keidanren or the Federation of Economic Organizations said Monday it will an urgent joint meeting of its key trade and economic structure adjustment committees after a series of background sessions with officials from the Finance and Foreign Ministries as well as the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

Meanwhile, International Trade and Industry Minister Hajime Tamura will meet with Keidanren Chairman Eishiro Saito and other senior Keidanren officials Thursday to help prepare a government strategy on pump-priming measures for the domestic economy, MITI officials said.

Tamura is also expected to confer with leaders of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Japan Committee for Economic Development, the officials said. No dates for those meetings were announced.

Saito, chairman of Nippon Steel Corp., warned that Japanese industry as a whole has to make a frontal assault against the adverse effects of the yen's dramatic ascent against the dollar.

The emergency session will be the first since the two committees got together to explore measures to ride out the so-called dollar and oil shocks in the early 1970s.

ENVOY TO U.S. BRIEFS KURANARI ON TRADE ISSUE

OW301403 Tokyo KYODO in English 1355 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 30 KYODO -- Japanese ambassador to Washington Nobou Matsunaga said Monday the U.S.-Japan trade problem has become a political issue beyond the realm of economic solutions alone, according to a Foreign Ministry official.

In talks with Tadashi Kuranari, Japan's Foreign Minister, Matsunaga urged him to take drastic measures to stimulate domestic demand, open its market, resolve the semiconductor issue along with other trading problems and to increase its aid to developing nations. Matsunaga briefed Kuranari during a lengthy dinner meeting in Tokyo.

Matsunaga returned here Sunday to brief Kuranari, other government officials, political and economic leaders on the critical situation surrounding Japan.

MIYAZAWA TO MEET TREASURY SECRETARY BAKER

OW301319 Tokyo KYODO in English 1314 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 30 KYODO -- Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will meet with U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker III in Washington on April 7, government officials said Monday. He also plans to confer with the finance ministers of other major industrial powers while staying in the U.S. capital, they said.

Miyazawa's meeting with Baker will precede a series of meetings of major industrialized democracies to find ways to stabilize currency exchange rates. Miyazawa will leave Tokyo for Washington on April 7 accompanied by Satoshi Sumita, governor of the Bank of Japan, who will also attend the Washington conferences.

Finance ministers and Central Bank governors of the Group of Seven (G-7) countries will meet on April 8, with a similar meeting of the Group of 10 (G-10) countries and the Interim Committee of the International Monetary fund (IMF) scheduled the following day. Miyazawa will speak at the beginning of the Interim Committee meeting and then depart for Japan, returning to Tokyo on April 10.

The officials said it is entirely possible the G-5 finance ministers and central bankers will hold a separate conference in Washington. The G-5 countries are Japan, the United States, West Germany, Britain and France.

The series of currency meetings will take place against the background of a sharp depreciation of the dollar against the yen in recent days despite major industrial nations massive market intervention to stem the fall of the dollar.

SOURCES REPORT PLANS FOR NAKASONE U.S. VISIT 5

OW280955 Toyko KYODO in English 0948 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 28 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone is scheduled to have two sets of talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan during his visit to the United States from April 29 to May 5, government sources said Saturday.

Their discussions, on April 30 and May 1, will explore ways of easing growing bilateral trade tensions, the sources said. Nakasone also wants to confirm the state of bilateral ties before the seven-nation summit scheduled for June 8-10 in Venice, they said.

In their first meeting on April 30, the two leaders are expected to discuss trade issues including alleged dumping of Japanese semiconductor chips at unfair prices in third-country markets for re-export to the U.S. Discussions on May 1 will center on global issues such as arms control and worldwide negotiations on disarmament.

While staying in Washington until May 2, Nakasone plans to meet with congressional leaders as well as cabinet members including Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Treasury Secretary James Baker and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige.

Nakasone arrives in Washington on April 29, the 86th birthday of Emperor Hirohito, and he will attend a celebration party to be held at the Japanese Embassy there.

Following the first summit meeting on April 30, Nakasone and his wife Tsutako will attend a dinner hosted by the President and First Lady Nancy Reagan, the sources said. On his way home the prime minister will make a one-night stopover at Honolulu, they said.

NAKASONE, EPA OFFICIAL DISCUSS ECONOMIC PACKAGE

OW271021 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Friday asked Tetsuo Kondo, director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), to cooperate with the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in working out comprehensive pump-priming measures to deal with mounting Japan-U.S. trade friction.

Kondo, the government's top economic planner, later expressed his willingness to comply with Nakasone's request, telling reporters that the LDP will be able to work out effective measures prior to Nakasone's U.S. visit, although the government can not announce the measures before passing the fiscal 1987 budget through the Diet.

Kondo quoted Nakasone as calling for five or six measures including the improvement of social infrastructure, housing construction and increased government spending for local municipalities.

He also suggested that the LDP will make the outlines of the new comprehensive economic package public in early April to prepare for upcoming nationwide gubernatorial elections along with elections for local assemblies.

On Thursday, Nakasone had asked Masayoshi Ito, chairman of LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council, to sketch out the stimulative package in order to boost the economy and defuse mounting trade tension with the U.S. Nakasone's request came prior to his scheduled visit to Washington from April 29 to May 5.

At a meeting of the LDP's top executives on Friday, Ito disclosed his reply to Nakasone that the LDP will not be able to drop the current austere fiscal policy unless the Nakasone administration first takes the initiative and declares its switch to an "active" fiscal policy.

Ito was apparently commenting on the present policy of holding down government ministries' annual budget requests below their previous year's levels, including those for public works projects, in a bid to reconstruct the deficit-ridden National Treasury.

Shintaro Abe, chairman of the LDP's Executive Council who attended the meeting, said the government should clearly declare and implement the necessary change in fiscal policy. Abe criticized the government for not making sincere efforts to expand domestic demand and improve Japan-U.S. trade relations, saying "rhetoric alone cannot achieve anything." He said, "it would be irrational to order the LDP to make a composition (of the comprehensive economic package) unless the government clearly adopts a change in fiscal policy."

LDP Deputy Secretary General Koichi Hamada echoed Abe's view, saying that "unless (the government) pursues a positive fiscal policy, it will be impossible to expand domestic demand."

Supercomputers Might Be Bought

OW301345 Tokyo KYODO in English 1324 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 30 KYODO -- The Japanese Government may decide to purchase foreign-made supercomputers as part of a package of economic countermeasures aimed at allaying U.S. criticism of Japanese trading practices, a top Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

Under fire from the United States for allegedly failing to open up markets to foreign products, the Japanese Government may agree to offer tenders for the multimillion-dollar supercomputers in accordance with practices concluded under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The package of pump-priming measures will be compiled late next month before Prime Minister Nakasone visits the U.S.

The government hopes concessions contained in the proposals will help to placate U.S. Government officials threatening to levy penalty tariffs on imports of some Japanese products after alleged Japanese violations of a semiconductor agreement with the U.S., the official said.

After approaches from the Foreign Ministry and the ministry of International Trade and Industry, several government ministries and agencies have expressed interest in supercomputers, but at present they cannot afford one, the official continued.

However, once the supercomputer proposal is officially included in the government's economic package, government agencies wishing to procure supercomputers may be eligible for financial assistance under a possible fiscal 1987 supplementary budget, the official added.

RADIO COMMENTARY SUPPORTS MINISTERIAL TALKS

SK310536 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Commentary by station commentator Cho Tong-ik: "Magnanimous Stand of Trying To Alleviate Tension"]

[Text] A letter signed by the premier of the DPRK State Administration Council addressed to the South Korean prime minister was delivered to the South Korean side on the morning of 30 March. While noting that in the reply letter dated 13 March, the south Korean side expressed its interest in the question of alleviating the tension prevailing in the country, the letter expressed the stand that holding premiers' talks which the South side proposed is not bad. It also proposed that to arrange North-South premiers' talks at the earliest date preliminary ministerial-level talks be held on 23 April in Tongilgak, the building of our side in Panmunjom.

This new proposal advanced by us is a flexible [yungtongsong] and magnanimous proposal for talks to alleviate acute tension prevailing in the country and to realize reconciliation and unity. Only our sincere stand on and interest in the alleviation of tension and peace, without any selfish motives, is expressed in this proposal.

Alleviating tension between the North and South is an acute task that our two sides must jointly resolve at present by giving priority to it. If the current acute confrontation between the North and south remains intact, tension will be further aggravated and, eventually, our nation will inevitably be plunged onto an ominous road. Such an unfortunate situation that is not advantageous to either the north or South must be prevented at any cost. If this situation is to be prevented, the two sides of the North and South must hold talks to substantially resolve the problem of easing tension.

Just as to contain something, a suitable container is necessary, a form of talks suitable to the nature of the issues is necessary for dialogue. It is self-evident that the question of alleviating tension in the country and other important political and military questions cannot be resolved by holding Red cross talks or economic talks. Such questions can be resolved when high-level persons in authority and those who have real power in the military sit face to face. Proceeding from such pressing demands, we advanced a proposal for holding high-level political and military talks to ease political and military confrontation between the North and south and to promote an atmosphere of trust within the nation. We understand that the South side's proposal for premiers' talks also proceeds from its recognition of a need to hold high-level political talks to resolve the question of easing tension. Proceeding from this, while thinking that we must not stick to formality if it is for holding political talks which can practically alleviate tension and guarantee peace for the country and nation, we expressed our position that holding premiers' talks is all right. We hold the magnanimous attitude with which one does not make only one's own interests absolute but also accommodates the other side's if it is to alleviate tension in the country.

If premiers' talks are held, the North and South will be able to comprehensively discuss all problems necessary for alleviating tension. Then, this will make it possible to eliminate confrontation and mistrust and to successfully seek multifaceted talks in a good atmosphere of reconciliation and unity.

To resolve the question of alleviating tension, we sent a letter to the South Korean side on four occasions this year and repeatedly advanced flexible [sinchuksonginnun] proposals for talks, while fully considering the demands of the South Korean side. This clearly shows the fundamental position, positive attitude, and enthusiasm of the government of the republic with which it tries to peacefully resolve the Korean question through dialogue and negotiations at any cost.

If the South Korean side is interested in dialogue and is sincerely interested in alleviating tension, it has no reason not to accept our just proposal. We think that if, in response to even our new proposal for talks, they demand that talks on water resources be held and that existing dialogues be resumed, this is not a reasonable attitude. Things must be done according to reason. The question of holding a dialogue and of alleviating tension wholly depends upon the attitude of the South side. The South side must reply affirmatively to our proposal.

DAILY COMMENTARY SCORES U.S. TROOP WELCOME

SK300941 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2154 GMT 28 Mar 87

[NODONG SINMUN 29 March commentary: "Making the Jackal's Mouth Water"]

[Text] The treacherous Chon Tu-hwan clique is continuing to stage the farce of welcoming the U.S. imperialist aggressors who are worming into South Korea to participate in the provocative "Team Spirit-87" war exercise.

On 26 March, it made the puppet Seoul mayor take part in such a farce. The rascal puppet Seoul mayor gave a large bundle of gifts to the U.S. 25th Division commander while babbling that Seoul and Hawaii, where the U.S. 25 Division has built its nest, are sister cities closer to each other than any other cities in the world, that he would send a symphony orchestra to Hawaii to perform, and so forth, thus flattering him and acting spiritless.

It is reported that the commander of the U.S. imperialist division, pleased and satisfied with the warm welcome by the stooges, pinned the medal of his unit, which was stained with blood, on the puppet.

As for the U.S. 25th Division, it is a notoriously murderous unit that invaded our country to reduce our cities and villages to ashes and murder innumerable Korean people during the fatherland liberation war. That these rascals are participating in the "Team Spirit" war exercise is to inflict the calamities of war on our people in the future just as in the past.

It is none other than the Chon Tu-hwan clique, traitors to the nation, who deify the sworn enemy who committed indelible crimes against our nation in the past and attempts to impose nuclear holocaust upon our nation today. It is all the more disgusting that the puppets are atrociously against the people like wolves and suppress them at the points of bayonets, while flattering the aggressors in so cowardly a manner.

At the very moment the Seoul mayor was engaged in subordinate diplomacy toward the United States at the order of traitor Chon Tu-hwan, the puppet Seoul police perpetrated wholesale checks and searches at the universities of the city and arrested approximately 230 patriotic students. Wielding bayonets while flattering the aggressors is an act that can be perpetrated only by those who have betrayed the nation and the people.

The U.S. imperialists are now sharpening the sword of aggression against our republic to realize at any cost their ambition for aggression upon the whole of Korea, which they had failed to achieve in the 1950's. Furthermore, the rascals openly brandish nuclear sticks to ignite a new war and make the Korean peninsula a theater of nuclear confrontation. Extolling the U.S. imperialists as friends and protectors, the Chon Tu-hwan group is instigating the aggression of the wolves.

As long as the Chon Tu-hwan clique, which maintains its life by licking the soles of the feet of the U.S. imperialist aggressors who attempt to sacrifice our people as an offering in a nuclear war, remains in South Korea, the nation will not be well. The South Korean people will absolutely not tolerate the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their stooges, the treacherous Chon Tu-hwan clique.

CHON'S 25 MAR MILITARY ACADEMY SPEECH

SK270346 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Commentary by station commentator Cho Tong-ik: "Hackneyed False Propaganda"]

[Text] In a speech he delivered before a graduation ceremony at the puppet Military Academy on 25 March, traitor Chon Tu-hwan fanned the sentiment of confrontation by wickedly picking a quarrel with us. While babbling about the threat of provocations by someone else and saying that the security situation in a few years will be dangerous, the rascal called for strengthening the all-out defense posture by assuming an attitude of preparing for a decisive battle. In a panel discussion held a day prior to this, the puppet foreign minister babbled gibberish about someone else's military adventure and about the future in a few years.

Of course, such fictitious and false propaganda is not new to us. Everyone knows that the puppet traitor and his errand boys spew such gibberish every day. What has attracted our attention is that the more serious the puppets' mania for a war of northward invasion becomes, the more frequently the rascals conduct false propaganda about the threat of provocation by someone else.

When it enters a full-fledged mobilization stage, the "Team Spirit-87" joint military exercise that the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique stages with the U.S. imperialists will more vividly reveal its aggressive and adventurous nature. Mobilized in this exercise are vast aggressive troops, including the E-4B plane designed to assume comprehensive command during a nuclear war, sufficient to wage a war. Together with the aggressive U.S. imperialist forces, which have been additionally deployed from overseas, puppet army troops have been moved and deployed in operational zones. Thus, they have assumed a complete combat posture.

This provocative military exercise, a preliminary war and an experimental nuclear war of northward invasion, assumes the dangerous nature of being transformed into a real war at any moment. While engaged in such reckless war frenzy, they have raised a conspiratorial commotion by picking a quarrel with us, who, having advanced a peace-loving proposal, have unsparingly exerted sincere efforts to implement it. This is outrageous. This is brazen, false propaganda designed to mislead public opinion at home and abroad and justify preparations for a war of northward invasion, which they have accelerated.

Reischauer, a former U.S. ambassador to Japan, recently stated that the crisis in South Korea is not internal, but external, and that a few years from now the South will face a most dangerous period.

The true threat to the South Korean puppets is not the threat of southward invasion, but the crisis of fascist rule caused by the domestic situation in South Korea. Fair and just public opinion at home and abroad unanimously concedes this.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring stated that a few years from now will be the most dangerous period in terms of security because the most exigent crisis will develop during this period when it tries to maintain its life line. Traitor Chon Tu-hwan's term of office as puppet president will terminate in February of next year. However, the rascal has failed to lay a foundation for prolonging his term in office. The Chon Tu-hwan ring's maneuvers to solidify the foundation for a long term of office by coercively implementing a plan to revise the Constitution in favor of a fascist parliamentary cabinet system have encountered strong opposition and rejection from the opposition party and democratic forces. It is expected that the chaotic state of the South Korean political situation will become much more serious.

In particular, as is shown by the fierce antigovernment struggle of students recently waged at Seoul University and by the advance movement of more than 1,200 religious figures in Chonju, the rancor and resentment of students and the people against the puppets are whirling to find a vent for explosion. Even U.S. dailies state that the South Korean situation is like the eve of a volcano eruption.

The puppets are boisterously babbling about the threat of southward invasion to remedy the crisis of downfall and to fulfill the wild desire to seize power once more by diverting the people's resistance and much more cruelly suppressing the people's righteous advance movement by preposterously linking it with us. The puppet traitor recently revealed such a hidden intention by raving that social stability is important and that political chaos should not be created.

No matter how loudly the puppets may blow the broken trumpet of southward invasion, they will convince no one, and the rascals will gain nothing. The puppets' base act of raising a conspiratorial commotion will only evoke denunciation from public opinion at home and abroad against them, war maniacs and political swindlers.

DAILY COMMENTARY DENOUNCES STUDENT SUPPRESSION

SK260642 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT 25 Mar 87

[NODONG SINMUN 26 March commentary: "Suppression Is a Road Toward Destruction"]

[Text] Recently, the South Korean puppets' suppression of campuses has become more unscrupulous. On 23 March, the puppet Supreme Prosecutor's Office issued a special order to the puppet prosecutor's offices throughout South Korea to arrest 108 students who have been wanted by police since the Inchon disturbance.

Clamoring that, entering the new school semester, these patriotic students are attempting to rebuild their organizations in all universities in South Korea, the rascals have ordered the prosecutor's offices to strongly crack down on and to block this move and to arrest the students as soon as possible by mobilizing all investigation efforts.

The puppet National Police Headquarters, too, has issued an order to arrest those persons who are wanted by police and to take them to police stations or to isolate those students among the cadre students of the student unions of universities who are likely to lead disturbances on and off campuses.

As a result, a sanguinary wholesale arrest is taking place all across South Korea. Due to the puppets' frantic checks and searches, streets, villages, bus and railway stations, inns, and students' boarding houses have become chaotic, and numerous innocent students are being taken to prison. In other words, another fascist offensive is being perpetrated to suffocate the student movement.

Wielding bayonets to suppress students at random the puppets fabricate this as if it were part of their policy of creating stability and an atmosphere for study on campuses. This is indeed a ridiculous and brazen trick. Campus and social stability and an atmosphere for study cannot be created with bayonets.

The student movement in South Korea is an inevitable product of the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule and the Chon Tu-hwan military-fascist dictatorship. As long as the colonial, repressive rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges, who brutally trample underfoot sovereignty, democracy, and the people's right to exist and who have blocked students from studying to seek truth, continues have been completely surrounded by the bayonets of fascism, and even freshmen are being taken to the puppet army units.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan has already babbled that he will completely eliminate left-leaning students and obliterate the student movement while he is in power. The puppets' suppression commotion is part of their maneuvers to reduce campuses to ashes. The puppets have tried not only to split and destroy the opposition parties and the off-stage opposition forces calling for democratic development in South Korea, including a constitutional revision featuring the direct presidential election system, but also to obliterate the student movement through brutal and violent force in a bid to realize their attempt to grasp political power again. The main forces of the mass movement in South Korea are precisely youths and students. The strong wind of the anti-U.S. struggle against fascism is sweeping South Korea on the strength of their leading role. The movement of South Korean youths and students which has entered a new stage under the anti-U.S. banner of independence is now being strengthened. This movement has further deepened the crisis in the colonial, military, and fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

As shown by the recently reported students' joint struggle at Seoul National University, the student movement is likely to be more active in the spring season.

The puppets are crying out that the students' violent riot is feared to be expanded. Traitor Chon Tu-hwan is afraid of a possible outbreak of a student movement this spring, which would trigger a more strong mass struggle throughout South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists are backing up the puppets with repressive equipment in a bid to maintain South Korea as their colony without difficulty, while urging them to bring the present situation under control.

The fascist offensive perpetrated against campuses is the dirty political suppression of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges to patch up the crisis in the colonial, military, and fascist rule which is in the worst situation. However, the puppets cannot obliterate the patriotic students' movement, though they can bind the hands of some students. What the puppets can obtain from their reckless rule with bayonets is not stability but their own destruction caused by the resistance of youths, students, and people.

28 Mar Radio Commentary

SK301055 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Commentary by station commentator Cho Tong-ik: "Suppressive Frenzy of Those Who Are Wrapped Up in Anxiety]

[Text] The South Korean military fascist clique is further intensifying a suppressive offense designed to block the student movement. As has already been reported, the puppet Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office and the puppet National Police Headquarters have issued a suppressive order for the arrest of 108 so-called leaders of campus disturbances who have been on a wanted list since the Inchon incident last year. According to this, the puppet Seoul Metropolitan Police Bureau, on the evening of 26 March, conducted the wholesale roundup and arrest of wanted men and randomly seized and confined 233 people.

Prior to this, the puppet National Police Headquarters once kicked up a commotion of search and investigation throughout South Korea under the signboard of arresting the most wanted men. Furthermore, it has been reported that the puppet National Police Headquarters has decided to take to the police station or isolate from students executive members of student councils at each university in South Korea -- students who are expected to lead disturbances on and off campuses. Moreover, an order has been newly issued to first-line police stations in Seoul to prepare for street demonstrations by intensifying searches and investigations of areas where demonstrations are frequently staged and be ready for the action needed to crack down on demonstrations.

Meanwhile the puppets have issued an order to even junior and senior high schools in Seoul to intensify their guard and administration so that disturbances might not take place.

All these facts reveal that the Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique has moved to a stage of conducting an overall scorched-earth operation against the campuses. The rascals are attempting to suffocate the student movement by arresting and confining all students who take the lead in the struggle, intensifying fascist regulation against campuses, and ruthlessly suppressing the students' massive advance. This is a vicious challenge to patriotism and democracy and an expression of the puppets' fascist madness, which has reached the highest pitch.

Anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle by students in South Korea is an inevitable product of the colonial fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges. Not being able to overlook with conscience and sentiments of justice the inconsistent reality of South Korea where the national sovereignty is trampled underfoot by the outside aggressors' boots where democracy is scathingly obliterated by the brandishing of fascist bayonets, and where the absolute majority of the people are being sacrificed for the accumulation of fortunes by a privileged minority, students in South Korea have launched the struggle. The puppets' branding them as leaf-leaning, pro-communist, or pro-North is an absurd perversity; this act can never rationalize campus suppression.

Moreover, the puppets' babbling about campus stability and the creation of an academic atmosphere while creating a fascist disturbance by brandishing bayonets is ridiculous and audacious gibberish.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring's further growing violent in suppressing the campuses is connected with the fact that their position is in a further aggravated crisis situation.

Although the Chon Tu-hwan ring is attempting to prolong its dictatorial rule even after next year through the deceitful play of the peaceful transfer of power, it confronts strong opposition from the people and democratic forces in South Korea. According to a report on the result of a survey of public opinion secretly conducted in South Korea by THE WASHINGTON POST, a U.S. paper, it is said that more than 98.5 percent of the residents oppose the current regime. It is the very patriotic students who personify these public sentiments in South Korea in a most sensitive way and who take the lead in the struggle. As a joint student struggle recently waged on the Seoul National University campus and a sit-in demonstration staged by students of Songgyungwan University reveal, the student movement will further increase with the spring season near at hand and may develop into a situation that can bring about another 19 April or another Kwangju popular uprising. What the puppets fear most is this type of development in the situation. Based on this, the Chon Tu-hwan ring, as it has declared, is imposing a state of actual martial law on South Korean after moving from the stage of making a so-called grave decision, and furthermore, it is shifting its suppressive sharp point toward strangling the student movement, which plays the leading role in the mass movement.

However, the puppets' suppression can never be a measure for solving the problem. Moreover, it will only give rise to a vicious political circle and its own destruction. Although the former dictator exercised suppressive madness to eradicate campus disturbances, he advanced his own destruction. The Chon Tu-hwan ring is following in the exact same wake of the predecessor. The more the Chon Tu-hwan ring becomes rampant in suppressing the campuses, the stronger the resistance from the students and people it will give rise to and thus advance its own destruction.

KCNA ON RPK EFFORTS TO CONTAIN SPREAD OF AIDS

SK290447 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 28 (KCNA) -- The puppets are reportedly working out a "bill" to check the rapid spread of acquired immune deficiency syndrome in South Korea, according to a report.

What is ridiculous, above all, is the fact that they take more pains in keeping the occurrence of this disease in secrecy rather than taking practical measures to prevent it through this "bill."

This can be seen in that the "bill" obliges doctors and hospitals to "report occurrence of the disease to 'government' organs" and, at the same time, forces them to keep this disease occurrence strictly "in the dark."

This tells that the puppet clique, feeling uneasy about the prevalence of AIDS, worked out such "bill" to mislead public opinion as if it were interested in preventing the infection of the disease on the one hand and include on the other provisions on secrecy in the "bill" to conceal the spread of AIDS in South Korea.

This disease called "pest of the United States" a terrible one which is rapidly exported into South Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggression forces there.

Already, in 1985 South Korean publications pointed out that addicts of AIDS virus in South Korea numbered more than 600,000.

Frightened at this, the puppets are resorting to despicable moves to stage the "1988 Olympic Games" without difficulty at any cost, concealing the prevalence of AIDS.

VNS COMMENTARY ASSAILS CHON TU-HWAN'S REMARKS

SK280845 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] During this hour, I will talk about the remarks that Chon Tu-hwan made during the graduation ceremony of the Korea military academy.

Chon Tu-hwan inspired war fever reeking of powder at the graduation ceremony of the 43d class of the Korea Military Academy held at the Hwarangdae Field on 25 March. While groundlessly slandering the North and talking about rumors on nonexistent threats of southward invasion, Chon Tu-hwan babbled that the security situation will face a more dangerous crisis than ever over the next year or two and that an all-out defensive posture must be strengthened to prepare for a decisive battle. Appearing at the graduation ceremony of the Korea Military Academy, Chon Tu-hwan inspired war fever reeking of powder in such a manner at a time when the "Team Spirit-87" South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise, in which large-scale forces some 200,000 strong are mobilized, is being conducted, simulating a northward invasion. This is a violent challenge to the public opinion of our people and the international community and an unforgivable [word indistinct].

At a time when the North recently proposed to hold high-level North-South political and military talks to bring an end to political and military tension between the North and the South, to promote national reconciliation and unity, and to achieve a breakthrough in reunification, Chon Tu-hwan, turning a deaf ear to this epochal proposal for peace talks, babbled about rumors on nonexistent threats of southward invasion and inspired war fever. This is an unforgivable crime.

Not only our people but also the peoples of the world (?recognize) that no threats of southward invasion exist in this land, and Chon Tu-hwan himself may well know this. Nevertheless, Chon Tu-hwan groundlessly babbled about threats of southward invasion and babbled that preparations must be made for a decisive battle. This was to secure power, not because of someone else's threats. This is evidenced by the fact that Chon Tu-hwan babbled that it is all the more necessary than ever to maintain social stability in order to realize a peaceful transfer of power and to successfully hold the Seoul Olympic Games scheduled for next year and that social discord and political disorder must not take place. This is a violent statement that shows his ulterior motive for harshly obliterating the righteous struggle of our people for independence, democracy, and reunification, terming the struggle an illegal act that hinders social stability, and his motive for ruthlessly suppressing the basic democratic demands of the people under the pretext of realizing a peaceful transfer of government and of successfully holding the Seoul Olympic Games in an effort to stabilize his reign in power and to seek long-term office. This shows that Chon Tu-hwan is a dictator who frantically seeks long-term office and is a war maniac who only seeks confrontation and war, not the alleviation of tension and peace on the Korean peninsula.

No sophistry of Chon Tu-hwan can conceal his dirty traitorous and antipopular colors and no fascist suppression can block the just struggle of our people for independence, democracy, and reunification. By vigorously waging the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle despite any appeasement, deception, and fascist suppression, our people will check and frustrate the maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan ring to provoke a war and its plot to seek long-term office and will overthrow the pro-U.S. and dictatorial regime from this land.

CHON CALLS FOR ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT ASSEMBLY

SK310215 Seoul YONHAP in English 0203 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Seoul, March 31 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan Tuesday expressed hope that the proposed constitutional revision and South Korea's other pending national issues could be discussed in the National Assembly to find a solution. "I urge all politicians to make sincere efforts for national and democratic development by being faithful to the parliamentary democratic principles of dialogue and compromise," Chon told a district chapter's reorganization meeting of the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

"The most urgent national tasks we face this year," the president said in a speech delivered in the meeting of the Anyang-Sihung District chapter, "are to prepare for a peaceful transfer of power and Seoul Olympics (both scheduled for next year)." The president said the tasks call, more than anything else, for popular unity and social stability, and for that reason an absolute majority of people urgently desire stability, he said. The speech was read by Rep. Chong Tong-sung, chairman of the government party's Knonggi provincial chapter.

Chon also warned that if politicians continue to fail to live up to popular aspirations and stick to personal and partisan interests, thus creating confusion and confrontation, the people would not tolerate them. He said South Korea this year is at the crossroads leading to a solid national development or to a shameful history of confusion stagnation.

Meanwhile, party Chairman No Tae-u said at the reorganization rally that next year's transfer of power should be carried out in compliance with popular wishes and on the basis of constitutional revision by consensus. No said his party would do its utmost to get a parliamentary cabinet system adopted under the new Constitution with a broadly-based popular support, as it is the call of the era and the alternative to the future governmental form. He also deplored violence and violation of law and order perpetrated by radical leftist forces and accused the opposition of illusory attempt to politically exploit the illegal acts.

CHON CITES ROLE OF AIR FORCE IN MODERN WARFARE

SK280058 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Chongju -- President Chon Tu-hwan said yesterday that the role of the Air Force is a key in modern wars characterized by blitzkrieg tactics.

The Chief Executive then called upon Air Force servicemen to double their efforts to cultivate combat skills in order to maintain air superiority over the enemy.

President Chon made the remarks in an address given at the commencement ceremony of the Air Force Academy here.

The President said that Korea's flight information network has been remarkably improved of late with the establishment of an early warning system to monitor the moves of the enemy's air force.

The President went on to say that the Air Force will be able to crush the enemy's air attacks in the initial stage of a conflict, with the deployment of highly-sophisticated F-16s for an aerial patrol.

Chon also stressed that maintenance of security and stability was the foremost task in achieving another take-off in national development at a time when the country is faced with a golden opportunity to attain prosperity.

President Chon forecast that the country will be able to join the ranks of economically advanced nations if it successfully realizes the peaceful change of government and the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

He recalled that the nation has made miraculous achievements in all fields as a result of laborious efforts by all people, and he is confident that it will be able to become an advanced democratic nation in the near future.

"When we successfully achieve our national goals, the North Korean Communist will be compelled to seek a common prosperity with us," Chon said.

DJP SEEKS EXTRA ASSEMBLY SESSION IN MID-APRIL

SK310038 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 31 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party yesterday decided to consider calling a special National Assembly session around the middle of next month.

Chairman No Tae-u instructed floor leader Yi Han-tong to contact opposition counterparts in order to discuss the opening of an Assembly session.

If the opposition opposes a full session, the DJP will seek to convene standing committee sessions, party officials said.

According to the officials, priority will be given to trade-industry and agriculture-fisheries committees in order to deal with foreign trade frictions and ways of easing the burden of debts of farming households.

Chairman No and other key officeholders also agreed to step up efforts to break the deadlock in negotiations with the opposition on constitutional reform.

"In April, we should exert our utmost to produce agreement with the opposition on the constitutional issue. We should also try to broaden public support," said the party chairman.

No and the senior DJP lawmakers also decided to put more emphasis on developing policy programs related with the people's livelihood.

DJP TO INITIATE DEMOCRATIC REFORM MEASURES

SK280039 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 28 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party will concentrate on restoring dialogue with the opposition to break the deadlock in negotiations on constitutional reform, party officials said yesterday.

In an effort to foster a favorable atmosphere for interparty dialogue, the DJP plans to take "democratic reform measures" beginning next month.

The democratization measures will include the release of detainees and the expansion of freedom of the press, said the officials.

They said the party has accelerated preparations for the democratic reforms since its chairman No Tae-u was granted "full authority" by President Chon Tu-hwan to hold negotiations with the opposition.

President Chon, who also heads the ruling party, instructed No Wednesday to take "full power and responsibility" in breaking the deadlock in negotiations with the opposition on the constitutional issue.

Party chairman No yesterday once again urged the opposition New Korea Democratic Party to accept the DJP's call for an early resumption of discussions on constitutional amendment.

Speaking at the dedication ceremony for a new local chapter office in Kwangju, No said, "This year the nation has to complete preparations for two significant tasks -- the peaceful transfer of power and the Seoul Olympics.

"The opposition should give up its past practices of slander and political maneuvers and accept calls for dialogue and compromise," he said.

No proposed that the ruling and opposition parties immediately start negotiations to produce an agreement on constitutional revision.

"The DJP will try to create a favorable atmosphere for resuming interparty discussions," he added.

Chairman No is slated to give a press conference today to disclose plans designed to resolve the stalemate in constitutional negotiations between the rival parties.

Another ranking DJP official said the party will hold consultative meetings with the government next week in order to discuss detailed strategies regarding future political developments.

The officials said, "We can no longer afford to delay the constitutional negotiations. The dispute in the opposition NKDP cannot be an excuse for delaying the discussion."

"We will seek to talk with various factions of the opposition party. And when the opposition party settles its internal dispute, we will try to launch full-fledged interparty negotiations," he said.

He said the DJP is studying a wide range of democratic reforms.

"The DJP will take some of the measures on its own. Others will be implemented after close consultations with the government," he added.

He said, however, that the party will try to conduct negotiations with the opposition on such issues as the formulation of fair election laws and the implementation of local autonomy.

The official denied speculation that the government may grant amnesty to Kim Tae-chung, who is under a suspended 20-year prison term for sedition.

"The government is not considering granting amnesty to Kim Tae-chung. But we will consider talking with Kim Yong-sam when a proper climate is formed," he said.

TWO KIMS, YI MIN-U TO MEET TO NARROW DIFFERENCES

SK310035 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 31 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] New Korea Democratic Party president Yi Min-u will meet Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam today to narrow their differences over the constitutional revision of strategy and the intraparty feud.

The three-way meeting, the first in four months, is expected to provide some important momentum for the major opposition party to settle internal issues and its constitutional reform strategy.

The decision to hold a three-way meeting was made yesterday morning when the two Kims, who lead the NKDP's two mainstream factions, met at the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, which they co-chair. Yi agreed to the proposed get-together.

After yesterday's meeting, the two Kims said they will make "grave decisions" on the pending issues after the three-way meeting. The pending issues included the resumption of the reorganization rallies of the party local chapters and the disciplinary measure against Rep. Yi Chol-sung. Yi is a minor faction leader accused of advocating the cabinet form of government favored by the ruling camp.

Kim Tae-chung said that at the three-way meeting they will discuss ways to cooperate and to prevent the ruling camps "design to destroy the opposition."

In order to hold the party's national convention in May in a smooth way, the two Kims, however, will also make a decision on their relations with party president Yi, he said.

The two Kims agreed to promote party adviser Kim Yong-sam as party president at the coming national convention and asked for Yi's support. Yi, however, refused to support Kim.

Yi and the two Kims have been estranged since December when Yi suggested a "seven-point democratization formula." His formula was construed as containing his willingness to negotiate the cabinet form of government with the ruling party in exchange for seven reforms. Ever since, Kim Tae-chung has rejected a three-way meeting.

Meanwhile, a clash between the mainstream and nonmainstream factions is expected as the former plans to convene the party's Disciplinary Committee today to punish Rep. Yi chol-sung.

But nonmainstreamers are seeking to block the two Kim's move and counterattack by holding their own reorganization rallies.

Rep. Song Won-Yong, a nonmainstream member, held a reorganization rally yesterday afternoon at the local chapter of Tongdaemun, Seoul, which he chairs. The two Kims and their supporters, however, didn't attend the rally. They had asked Song to postpone the rally until the intraparty feud is settled.

YI MIN-U REFUSES TO DROP FROM LEADERSHIP

SK260105 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] New Korea Democratic Party president Yi Min-u yesterday rejected a demand that he declare he will not run for the party presidency in the national convention slated for May.

Yi's unfavorable response to the demand by the two major intraparty factions, led by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, is expected to develop into another dispute in the main opposition party.

Yi said, "Under any circumstances, the internal feud should be resolved at an early date. But I will never surrender to any force or pressure (from the mainstreamers)."

He said that although he can support party adviser Kim Yong-sam, it would be difficult for him, as party president, to raise the hands of a specific person at district chapter reorganization rallies in preparation for the national convention.

It was the first time that Yi has reacted specifically to the mainstreamers' demand that he express his support for Kim Yong-sam as the next party president.

The two Kims agreed last month to promote Kim Yong-sam as party leader in the May convention.

Asked about the possibility that he might seek reelection in the convention, Yi only said that he has not thought about reelection.

"It is not time for us to talk about the new party leadership at a time when district chapter reorganization rallies have been suspended," he said.

Yi then expressed displeasure over the formation of the six-member committee Monday by the two kims.

"The party's Executive Council and other official bodies are not paralyzed. And the two Kims' opinions have been fully reflected in the decision-making process because their followers control these bodies," he said.

The remarks were constructed as an expression of his strong objection to possible interference in official party operations by the committee.

"I don't know why the committee was created," he said.

Nonmainstreamers have demanded that the committee be dissolved, accusing the two Kims of "staging an intraparty coup d'etat out of greed for power."

Yi said he will hold a news conference, on his plans for future action and his ideas to resolve the internal dispute, after watching the activities of the committee for some more days.

As for the possibility of a meeting between the two kims and himself to discuss ways of settling the discord, he said that Kim Yong-sam had promised to arrange the three-day talks during their meeting March 17.

"He said that if the talks do take place he will discuss all matters concerning party operation, including the forthcoming national convention.

Mainstreamers are strengthening their drive to force Yi to express his support for Kim Yong-sam, while making a conciliatory gesture.

In a related move, Rep. Hong Sa-tok, a former party spokesman who is affiliated with Kim Yon-sam's faction, visited Yi at his home earlier in the day.

Some mainstreamers said the two Kims are considering boycotting a reorganization rally of the Tongdaemun district chapter in Seoul, which a nonmainstreamer lawmaker plans to hold Monday.

The mainstream groups plan to hold a meeting today to discuss matters concerning party operation.

NKDP 'NONMAINSTREAMERS' TO PROMOTE KIM OPPONENT

SK280027 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 28 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Mainstreamers of the opposition New Korea Democratic Party are accelerating their drive to promote Kim Yong-sam as the next party president in the party's national convention in May.

In response, the nonmainstreamers are seeking to select a candidate to compete with Kim.

A group of six leading mainstreamers visited party president Yi Min-u at his home yesterday and reiterated their demand that he support Kim.

They asked him to make a decision so that the May convention can be held "in a smooth way."

Yi, who is in his 70s, showed no enthusiasm for the demand by the two largest NKDP factions, led by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung.

He only said, "Let's not talk about what has happened in recent months, let's make joint efforts to help develop the party."

Kim Tae-chung Thursday reiterated his earlier decision to promote Kim Yong-sam as party leader in the convention, condemning Yi for failing to conduct a "persistent and satisfactory" struggle for direct presidential elections. He is banned from political activities because of a suspended 20-year prison term stemming from a sedition conviction.

Party sources said that despite Yi's negative response to their demand, the mainstream groups may continue to try to persuade him to accept it until early next month, while making a conciliatory gesture.

In preparation for a possible contested party leadership election at the forthcoming convention, the two major factions are expected to consolidate their footing.

On Thursday, they created a body of their own to promote party adviser Kim Yong-sam as party president.

Aides said that Yi may hold a news conference next week on his future actions and matters concerning the May convention.

They denied the possibility that Yi might seek reelection. "Yi is expected to devote himself to the holding of the convention in a smooth way during the rest of his tenure of office," they said.

In the meantime, nonmainstreamers are seeking to select a candidate to vie with Kim Yong-sam in the convention from among Yi Ki-taek, a vice party president, and Kim Chae-kwang.

They are also closely watching Yi Min-u's activities, expressing hope that he will seek reelection.

Some leading nonmainstreamers called for the introduction of a collective leadership system when they met at a Seoul hotel yesterday. They included Kim Chae-kwang and Sin To-hwan.

Other nonmainstreamers are considering launching a signature collection drive "to save the party," accusing the two Kims of "staging an intraparty coup d'etat out of greed for power."

Despite opposition from mainstream groups, Rep. Song Won-yong plans to hold a reorganization rally of his Tongdaemun district chapter in Seoul Monday.

The mainstreamers have called for the postponement of reorganization rallies in preparation for the convention until after the disciplining of Yi Chol-song.

A minor faction leader Yi Chol-song has been accused by the mainstream groups of violating the party's official policy of seeking direct presidential elections.

YI MIN-U REPEATS CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS

SK310047 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 31 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] New Korea Democratic Party [NDP] president Yi Min-u, speaking to a district chapter convention yesterday, renewed his call for democratic steps by the government to create the mili : for a constitutional amendment.

The major opposition leader demanded that the ruling camp set free 2,000 political detainees, grant amnesty for 500 democratic persons, guarantee the freedom of the press and the early implementation of the local autonomy system.

He made the request in a prepared text of his address to the convention of the Tongdaemun district chapter in Seoul, headed by Rep. Song Won-yong. The rally was held at the Mammoth Wedding Hall in Chongnyangni, eastern Seoul.

Reiterating his offer for domestic reforms, which was contained in the now-famous "Yi Min-u idea," Yi stressed, "My idea should not be and cannot be withdrawn."

His idea had inflamed a serious internal feud over the NDP's strategy for the constitutional revision among the top leaders of the NDP because it was taken as the precondition for the NDP's possible acceptance of the parliamentary cabinet system proposed by the government.

The rally which was aimed at restructuring the local chapter was attended by 10 NDP Assemblymen. They were Yi, vice presidents Kim Su-han, Yi Ki-taek, Reps. Kim Pyong-su, Pak Sil, Chang Chong-chun, Pak Kwan-yong, Sin To-hwan, Kim Chae-kwang and Kim Han-su.

The attendants were all the nonmainstreamers of the major opposition party. However, the mainstreamers led by Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam did not show up at the rally due to the two Kims' decision to boycott the NDP gatherings.

In his speech, the NDP head also urged the government to accept his party's proposal for a national referendum to give the electorate a chance to choose the type of power structure of the next government.

Yi suggested that President Chon Tu-hwan meet with opposition leaders Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam to discuss matters concerning the constitutional revision.

LEGALITY OF KIM TAE-CHUNG STATUS QUESTIONED

SK310040 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 31 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] An opposition lawmaker has demanded a ruling on whether or not Kim Tae-chung's involvement in the affairs of the New Korea Democratic Party violates laws governing political parties.

In a request for the ruling filed with the Central Election Management Committee (CEMC) Friday, Rep. Yi Taek-hui's NKDP district chapter said Kim Tae-chung has been involved in the party's affairs although he is under a suspended 20-year prison term for sedition.

Submitted in the name of Yi Yon-hui, the chapter's disciplinary official, the request said Kim has been involved in party personnel changes and disciplinary actions.

It also said Kim helped NKDP lawmakers to form a breakaway party.

The request called on the election committee to make a legal interpretation of Kim Tae-chung's actions.

Depending on the election committee's ruling, Rep. Yi said he will take resolute measures against Kim.

He said his measures will include legal actions.

In the meantime, the election committee said yesterday that Rep. Yi's request is being reviewed at the working level.

An official said the election committee has no right to investigate alleged violations of election-related laws and that its interpretation is not legally binding.

The ruling by the committee is likely to be issued this week, the official said.

SEOUL DAILY ASSAILS BALTIMORE SUN EDITORIAL

SK281217 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 28 Mar 87 p 4

[Article by Washington-based correspondent Chang Tu-song: "Korea and the United States Are Bound Together by a Love-Hate Relationship"]

[Text] The Baltimore Sun, a local U.S. newspaper, ran a malicious column about Korea on 27 March.

In the column written under such an insulting title as "King Kong Korea," the author stated in the beginning that he had an interview with U.S. Ambassador James Lilley. He also wrote that "Korea is still a de facto U.S. colony" and said that this was his private opinion and therefore not necessarily Ambassador Lilley's point of view. He thus attempted to back away from responsibility.

This column also quoted Ambassador Lilley as saying: There is a love-hate relationship between Korea and the United States. College kids burn me (Ambassador Lilley) in effigy. After that, they apply for admission to Chicago University's School of Economic Management.

The reference to Korea as King Kong in the headline reportedly had been used by an important American in Seoul. To quote that portion of the column verbatim: These people believe that they are poverty-stricken people who are developing an infant industry. However, we know that this infant sells in the United States. It seems to us that a King Kong's sitting in our bathtub.

It is well known how insulting the reference to King Kong, an animal of the ape family, could be to westerners.

This column also concludes that it is because the United States has given aid to and done other generous acts for Korea, including providing it with markets, for the past 30 years that Korea now ranks 20th in the world in economic strength.

This column also called the open market in the United States an Asian-type Marshall Plan.

Referring to Ambassador Lilley's meeting with NKDP President Yi Min-u, the column said, quite insultingly, that the "meeting is a message." This expression, taken from McLuhan's theory that the medium is at once the message, means to say it does not matter what they talked about during their meeting, but what counts is that they met because it serves as a message calling on the current Korean Government to press ahead with democratization.

In conclusion, this column said: The United States is frustrated at the thought that the King Kong Korea is growing to be as much an economic competitor as it is a growing child and the King Kong Korea is equally frustrated at the fact that the United States is more skilled in selling capitalism than in selling democracy. The United States has no choice but to do both in order to achieve prosperity and to be respected by mankind.

It is not necessary to respond to such a twisted point of view by a columnist at a local newspaper which seems to have become a victim of nihilism, because doing so would acknowledge such a point of view. However, it is not a simple question because a considerable portion of this column seems to have been based on Ambassador Lilley's point of view, as was indicated at the beginning of the column.

THE KOREA TIMES EXAMINES NO TAE-U'S NEW STATUS

SK290051 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Mar 87 p 2

[From the "News in Review" column by political editor Kim Myong-sik]

[Text] The presidential mood has changed remarkably over a period of less than a month.

Instead of the harsh admonitions he administered in a luncheon early in the month, President Chon lavishly fed party officers invited to a Chongwadae dinner last week with words of encouragement, personally filling their glasses repeatedly.

After the two-hour dinner was over, both the presidential spokesman and the secretary general of the Democratic Justice Party met with groups of waiting reporters to release the big news.

What came out of these official mouthpieces of the ruling camp replaced the stories of the opposition New Korea Democratic party in the top space of newspaper front pages for the first time in many days.

No Tae-u, who has held the No. 2 post in the ruling party for over two years, is now going to conduct national politics "with full powers on behalf of President Chon Tu-hwan" to achieve the goal of a constitutional amendment by interparty agreement.

It was almost a ritual of delegating power from the top leader to his closest associate some 11 months before the completion of the presidential term of office.

One participant in the dinner party recalled that he had never seen the President express such strong confidence in and affection for the party before. The elated partisans all proceeded to their favorite drinking houses to celebrate.

The man who came into the focus of political attention was rather modest and cautious. When he went to Kwangju City late last week, he made sure that the scenes of welcome would not be too conspicuous.

At this point it is understandable that No feels more the burden than the glory of power. Especially when the prospect is unclear with the opposition entangled in an internal feud, one could be more obsessed with the consequences of failure than the reward for success.

The first task for No, after the "recharging" of power with the presidential instruction, is to engage in dialogue with the leaders of the opposition force.

Yi Min-u, naturally, is the primary choice because of his formal title but a conversation between the two will have much less significance than before because of their changing status in contrasting ways.

The more important counterpart is Kim Yong-sam, who is now certain to takeover the formal as well as practical leadership of the NDP in its national convention in May or earlier.

When President Chon agreed to a constitutional amendment before the completion of his tenure last April, he told No to meet with Kim Yong-sam in search of a grand compromise.

Since then, however, neither side showed great enthusiasm for the meeting. Kim's side has been saying that what is more urgent is to meet President Chon rather than No, who they said is simply a deputy.

The presidential conveyance of "full power," at least concerning the constitutional amendment project, must have affected the opposition perception of the role of the DJP chairman. A change may therefore be expected in Kim Yon-sam's attitude toward No.

However, there is another stumbling block, that is the anticipated obstruction by Kim Tae-chung, a man who is considered a "non-person" among the members of the ruling circles for his legal status of being a convicted criminal and his political course which is defined as irreconcilably radical.

Unless there is any sign or assurance of modification in the ruling camp's treatment of Kim Tae-chung, he will reserve his consent to any open contact between the other Kim and No.

Kim Tae-chung's personal goal is having his conviction over the 1980 Kwangju incident nullified and his full political rights restored. To achieve this objective, he will use all the leverage he has in the days to come.

Two alternatives have thus been presented for the political stage for the settlement of the amendment issue. One is for Kim Yong-sam to get out of the grip of Kim Tae-chung and the other is for No Tae-u to correct his colleagues' decision on the Kim Tae-chung question.

At this moment, neither seems likely no matter how much leeway No has now been allowed to take. As for Kim Yong-sam, who barely settled a dispute with Yi Min-u, any drastic departure from the alliance with Kim Tae-chung would be inconceivable.

As the situation appears headed for a stalemate, much is expected from the personal capabilities of No, who is rather a novice in the world of politics.

It was shortly after the Feb. 12, 1985 general elections that No, who had by then made a round of ministerial portfolios, was named chairman of the DJP, responsible for the day-to-day operation of the ruling party machinery.

He held several sessions of negotiations with Yi Min-u in the preliminary stage of the opposition campaign for constitutional amendment. He has, however, had little chance to demonstrate his political prowess as neither he nor the party was in charge of the situation.

The Chongwadae dinner last week provided a new setting for the political theater. The crucial question now is the quality and amount of power of the main actor, which was bestowed from above.

If he successfully uses the power, even being independent of the source of the power itself, it will not be as difficult to wade through the rough waves of partisan politics as it looks now.

DEFENSE CHIEF ADDRESSES ARMED FORCES ON ANNIVERSARY

BK271353 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0112 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Speech by Defense Services Chief of Staff General Saw Maung at the 42d Armed Forces Day Parade in Rangoon's Resistance Park -- live]

[Text] Comrades: today marks the 42d Armed Forces Day commemorating the resistance against the fascists. Our Armed Forces (?together) with the people started the resistance movement against the fascists 42 years ago under the leadership of General Aung San, the father of the armed forces. Our armed forces won the victory over the fascists because we were an integral part of the people in waging the struggle. Thus, Armed Forces Day is a historic day for both the country and our Armed Forces.

Our Armed Forces, born out of the people during the anti-imperialist and national liberation struggles, is currently participating in the tasks to perpetuate the state and build a prosperous socialist society under the leadership of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP]. I would like to stress the responsibilities that have to be borne if we are to effectively and successfully carry out these tasks.

Comrades, the first task is to enhance responsibilities for the tasks of national defense and socialist construction through national unity and the three capabilities of the Armed Forces. Our Armed Forces scored victories during the independence struggle because we had the strength of national unity. We have also been able to preserve national independence and sovereignty together with the indigenous people.

Presently, our Armed Forces are building a socialist society. We must carry out national defense and socialist construction tasks with the strength of national unity as we did during the struggle for independence. Our Armed Forces personnel, who give priority to national unity, must have cordial relations with the people. We must respect the traditions and customs of the local people in discharging our duties in the assigned areas in the plains and in the hill regions. We must try to earn the friendship, goodwill, and cooperation of the local people while striving to satisfy their social and economic needs to the best of our abilities. Our Armed Forces have always defended and protected the people's interests while maintaining the noble traditions of the Armed Forces. We also serve as a backbone for socialist construction. Hence, it is imperative that our Armed Forces, as an integral part of the people, should strive to obtain the strength of national unity.

Comrades, the party chairman, in his capacity as the chief of the Defense Services, said during his 1962 Armed Forces Day speech that our Armed Forces must have all the characteristics that the Armed Forces the world over have, particularly the two following characteristics: Superb quality, and an integral part of the working people. Our Armed Forces have accepted these instructions and have been striving to improve quality and to be an integral part of the people through national unity.

We must constantly strive to improve our military, organizational, and administrative capabilities. We must learn from experience and integrate the new scientific military strategies so that we can, in defending the country, repulse and fight off any form of danger. We must also strive simultaneously to obtain new military science, political knowledge, and ideological development. We must strive to understand the party's ideology, basic line, policies, and programs under the leadership of the BSPP in our efforts to improve our political and ideological knowledge. We must also thoroughly discharge whatever duties we are assigned.

We must learn from the fact that we scored victories because of our military capabilities and the cooperation from and participation of the people, and strive to organize and strengthen a national defense force based on the strength of the people. These organizational efforts will enable us to carry out our major task of national defense and socialist construction. Organizational committees at various levels of our Armed Forces must strive to further improve military and organizational capabilities. At the same time, we must strive to upgrade administrative skills.

It will be necessary to follow and practise established systems in striving to upgrade administrative skills. We must accurately follow existing laws, regulations, rules, orders, and directives and strive to improve coordination between the lower and higher levels. In upgrading administrative skills, the authorities at various levels of supervision must be exemplary in honesty, loyalty, courage, selflessness, good conduct, and rich experience. Hence, we must carry more responsibilities for the national defense and socialist construction tasks with the three outstanding capabilities of our Armed Forces and the strengthen of national unity.

Comrades, the second task is to cooperate with the (?people) in accelerating the implementation of national economic plans. The indigenous working people are building a socialist society to lift their standard of living. The members of the Armed Forces, which have a noble tradition of loyally serving the people's interests, are actively involved together with the people in the socialist construction task. We solemnly believe that it is our historic duty to contribute to the national goal of socialist construction.

The BSPP is implementing economic plans to successfully establish a socialist economic system. At present, we are implementing the fifth 4-year economic plan which has the main aim of improving production by balancing the economy. Our Armed Forces, together with the peasants, workers, youths, and intelligentsia, are involved in the endeavor to improve production.

Our Armed Forces are also effectively participating in agricultural production and sending columns to states and divisions, apart from giving assistance to the peasants, organizing committees at various levels or carrying out in-service agriculture and livestock breeding projects. Furthermore, efforts are being made to adopt scientific methods of agriculture and livestock breeding. We are carrying out socialist construction tasks alongside the people.

Our Armed Forces members must be given necessary assistance in production in areas of their assignment to bring about effective and successful implementation of economic plans and to improve production. The people's living standard will improve only if the economic plans are implemented successfully. I would like to urge you to actively cooperate with the people in accelerating the implementation of economic plans.

Comrades, the third task is to continue to expose and crush destructive elements with the strength of the people. The Fifth Congress of the BSPP laid down a program of eliminating insurgents with the strength of the people. As long as insurgency exists it will continue to impinge upon peace, prosperity, and progress. Our armed force, together with the people, are striving to remove these hindrances and the insurgency through political and military means. Our victory over the insurgents in the delta region and the Pegu Yoma is evidence of the success of our military capabilities and the active participation of the people. The insurgents are disintegrating because of the people's participation and assistance and our ability to mobilize the people's strength. At present, the insurgent organizations have to take refuge in remote border areas and they have to engage in smuggling and the narcotics trade for their survival.

The people throughout the country can now live in full security, while economic plans can be carried out without hinderance because the Armed Forces and the people work in unison to eliminate insurgency. The people in areas where there are insurgent remnants can no longer tolerate them and are taking up arms to form anti-insurgent bodies to wage struggle. The indigenous people in remote and border areas are giving assistance to the armed forces members. They are holding public rallies to denounce the destructive elements.

As the people's opposition grows, so the elimination of insurgency draws closer. Hence, we must continue our drive to eliminate insurgency, maintaining the military capabilities of our Armed Forces and the momentum of the people's participation by securing the strength of the people.

Comrades, the points mentioned above are meant to serve the people in the best possible way as a people's army. In conclusion, I would like to urge every member of the Armed Forces to carry out the tasks of national defense and socialist construction through national unity and the three capabilities of the Armed Forces, acceleration of national economic plans through cooperation with the people, and elimination of destructive elements through the strength of the people with tenacity, strength, and courage.

AFP REPORTS 12 MAR PAGODA BOMBING, DEATHS

BK301515 Hong Kong AFP in English 1511 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Rangoon, March 30 (AFP) -- Twenty people, including three buddhist monks, were killed when Mon ethnic rebels bombed a pagoda festival at a village in Ye township, in Mon State north of here on March 12, an official announcement said Monday.

The rebel who planted the bomb was tracked down to the local hospital where he was receiving treatment for injuries he suffered in the bombing, the delayed announcement said. The rebel, who belonged to the New Mon State Party, confessed to the bombing before a local court on March 17, the announcement said. People injured in the blast were treated at the local hospital, it added, but gave no further details.

The New Mon State Party (NMSP) operates in Burma's southeastern Mon State. Observers said that the Mon people were more Burmanised than other minorities in Burma, and that the Mon Nationalist movement had never been particularly strong.

They are reportedly split into two factions, one of which numbers between 400-500 men under Nai Niol Lar, who replaced Nai Shwe Kyin as leader of the NMSP in 1981, following an internal dispute.

The latter, however, remained active and claims between 200-300 followers based in the rugged hills near the Three Pagodas Pass, opposite Thailand's Kanchanaburi Province.

PROPAGANDA CHIEF RECEIVES GDR RADIO DELEGATION

BK260700 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] A delegation of the GDR State Committee for Radio headed by Comrade (Rolf Weissbach), vice chairman of the committee, paid a courtesy call at the office of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission at 1500 in the afternoon of 25 March to Comrade Khoy Khunhuor, member of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission.

Speaking on that occasion, Comrade Khoy Khunhuor welcomed the delegation and voiced his satisfaction at its better understanding of the Cambodian revolution's growth in the field of radio broadcasting as well as the increasing consolidation of the Cambodian-German relations of solidarity. He further stressed the successes won by the Cambodian revolution in the past, successes that cannot be separated from the material and moral support of the German party, government, and people.

Comrade Khoy Khunhuor also talked about the success of the Fifth KPRP Congress and its major objectives, especially the party's first 5-year economic restoration and development plan.

In his return speech, Comrade (Rolf Weissbach) expressed great pleasure and elation at his visit and stay in the PRK. He highly appreciated the development of the Cambodian revolution, including the appropriate acceleration of ideological work in the cause of defending and building the fatherland progress toward socialism. He affirmed that cooperation between the German Radio and the Voice of the Cambodian People will grow stronger and develop.

A protocol of cooperation was then signed by Comrade Kim Yin, member of the KPRP Central Committee and director general of the Voice of the Cambodian People, and Comrade (Rolf Weissbach), vice chairman of the German State Committee for Radio, in an extremely cordial, joyous, and warm atmosphere.

COMMENTARY VIEWS SOURCES OF NATIONAL SALVATION

BK280928 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Political commentary: "Khmer National Salvation Forces"]

[Text] It is still fresh in our memory that at the beginning of 1979 when Vietnam invaded and occupied almost all of Cambodia, Vietnam installed the current Heng Samrin regime under the name of National Salvation Front. At that time, some Cambodians were quite happy because this helped save Cambodia from a decaying administration. However, so far, all hope has vanished, for the Cambodians now realize that the so-called national salvation is not a salvation of the Cambodian nation. It is something that is merely tantamount to taking the food from a crocodile's jaws and stuffing it into the muzzle of a tiger. We say this because we see that whatever Vietnam is doing now it is an effort to uproot everything that is Cambodian in nature through the process of Vietnamizing Cambodia in order to turn the 181,035 square kilometers of Cambodian territory into a Vietnamese province or a state of an Indochinese Federation in the same mold as various states in the Soviet Union with Russia as the boss.

Seeing such a danger dangling in front of us, let us attempt to examine and find out which forces are the authentic national salvation forces. There can be no other forces than the Khmerist forces. Any other forces irrefutably are forces serving the interests of the Vietnamese aliens.

The Khmerist forces are forces stemming from understanding among the Cambodians. Mutual understanding is tolerance for each other. It is not rivalry among Cambodians. It is something that each group accept in common, never regarding itself as the best, the stronger, or matchless, never seeking gain through propaganda for its own group without considering that the supreme interest is that of the Cambodian nation, and never licking the boots of the Vietnamese aliens to the detriment of the future of the Cambodian fatherland.

The authentic national salvation forces are forces mustered from all Cambodians living both inside or outside the country regardless of their different ideological views, regarding no party nor individual as the pillar, but considering only national interest as the main cause while working on the principle that serves the interest of the Cambodian nation and refusing to sell out one's own ideals in service of other individuals or aliens with the hope of making personal gain or annexing Cambodian territory and exterminating the Cambodian race to fulfill one's own ambitions.

The exemplary actions that should be praised are those of a number of Cambodian brothers who, though they were armed and promoted by Vietnam, never forgot that they were Cambodians by turning their guns against the Vietnamese in defense of their fellow Cambodians and the interests of the Cambodian nation and by joining with the Cambodian resistance fighters in opposing and counterattacking the Vietnamese alien aggressors to win independence for Cambodia while spurning personal comfort and gains heaped upon them as bait by Vietnam.

In short, the Khmer national salvation forces were born of all Cambodians who created them through their own initiative. They were not at all conjured up by the communist Vietnamese sorcerer Ho Chi Minh. The struggle to liberate the Cambodian nation churns out salvation forces to save the Cambodian nation from the fangs and claws of the Vietnamese tiger for the future of all Cambodian children.

VOK OBJECTS TO HANOI'S TALK OF 'INDOCHINA'

BK270921 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 27 Mar 87

["Political commentary": "What Is Indochina?"]

[Text] Once again, the visiting Lao deputy foreign minister has proposed talks between Indochina and ASEAN to seek a solution to the Cambodian problem. However, a Thai official declined, saying that neither Thailand nor ASEAN is the cause of the conflict in Cambodia. On the contrary, this conflict is caused by Vietnam's aggression in Cambodia. Furthermore, the Thai official questioned the Lao deputy foreign minister as to what constitutes Indochina. Geographically, Indochina would include China, India, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, and Singapore. Maybe Laos was talking about an Indochina which comprises Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, which were all former French colonies. We Cambodians are not really surprised by the use of this word because we are well aware of the Vietnam's real intentions -- to get political gain.

The Lao official's statement does not represent the Lao people's genuine will, for the use of the term Indochina shows that Vietnam is still trying to include Cambodia and Laos in a federation with Vietnam as master. Both the Lao and Cambodian people benefit nothing from the use of this term. Vietnam has been trying to get the world to forget anything that reflects the independence of Laos and Cambodia; instead, Vietnam tries to get the world to recognize Indochina. This term Indochina -- which Laos, Vietnam, and the puppets in Phnom Penh have been trying to get people to recognize -- has no significance for resolving the Cambodian problem. It only serves Vietnam's propaganda to get people to recognize the Indochinese Federation which Vietnam is striving to set up at Ho Chi Minh's recommendation.

It is this Indochinese Federation that Vietnam wants to unveil before the world and is attempting to achieve despite the fact that it has to use tens of thousands of troops in Cambodia and Laos. The proposal, already put forward by Vietnam and brought up by the Lao official, just shows that Laos is trying to please Hanoi.

We think that the Cambodian problem is one between Vietnam and Cambodia and has nothing to do with Laos or ASEAN. Laos and ASEAN could provide support for negotiations to resolve the Cambodian issue, but they cannot represent Cambodia and Vietnam for talks to resolve this Cambodian problem. The problem in Cambodia is caused by the Vietnamese troops' aggression; therefore the main party at talks to resolve the Cambodia issue can be none other than Vietnam the aggressor and Cambodia the victim. For Vietnam, it is the Hanoi Vietnamese, who have aggressor soldiers in Cambodia; as for Cambodia, it is the CGDK, which is Cambodia's legitimate representative, and not the Cambodian puppets propped up as cover by Vietnam.

VOK does not want to hear the words Indochinese Federation. We want to see Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos as such. We want to see Cambodia with its full independence as Cambodia. We do not want to see Cambodia transformed into a state of the Indochinese Federation or of the Hanoi Vietnamese's federation. Indochina, in the terminology of the Vietnamese means a Vietnamese state. This word Indochina was coined by the Hanoi Vietnamese in the Ho Chi Minh era. Vietnam always tries to use this term to represent Cambodia and Laos, but if the latter forget this, they will be completely absorbed by Vietnam.

VONADK ON PHNOM PENH, KOMPONG CHHNANG ACTIONS

BK310144 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 30 Mar 87

[From the "Daily Report From Various Battlefields" feature]

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh battlefield: On 23 March, our guerrillas in Phnom Penh city fired on and killed a Vietnamese lieutenant at the old stadium in the city.

Kompong Chhnang battlefield: On 25 March, our National Army attacked Pongro township and dismantled Vietnamese administrative networks in Pongro and Svay Chrum villages in Rolea P'ier District [Kompong Chhnang Province]. The attack was launched in four prongs. After a 1-hour battle, we took complete control with these four prongs. We killed 16 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 18 others; destroyed 57 assorted weapons, 18 large military vehicles, 5 commune offices, 26 barracks, 1 C-25 radio, 13 Honda motorcycles, 1 warehouse containing 70 bicycles, 1 rice mill, 53 sewing machines, 1 warehouse containing 300 rolls of cloth, 1 paddy stock with 500 sacks of paddy, 1 rice stock containing 200 sacks of rice, 1 general warehouse, 1 fuel depot containing 15,000 liters of gasoline and 20 barrels of diesel fuel, and some other war materiel; seized 15 weapons, 5,000 rounds of AK ammunition, 55 sets of uniform, 20 rolls of cloth, and some war materiel; liberated 17 villages -- Trapeang Thom, Khvet, Krang Khpos, Balang, Batheat, Phnum Toch, O Toap, Thmar Kev, Svay Chrum Thmei, Svay Chrum Chas, Phlov Veay, Khmep, Phnum Kambot, Tuol Trea, Sala, O Ta Tim, and Pongro -- and freed 53 Cambodian soldiers and 32 militiamen and commune and village officials. [passage omitted]

26 VILLAGES, 150 MILITIAMEN IN SIEM REAP FREED

BK270221 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 26 Mar 87

[From the "Daily Report From Various Battlefields" feature]

[Excerpts] Siem Reap battlefield: On 17 March, our National Army attacked Phsa Angkrong township on Route 6, 15 km east of Siem Reap town. After 15 minutes of fighting, we totally liberated and captured this township. We killed two Vietnamese and wounded two others. The rest fled in disarray. We destroyed 1 commune office, 1 cloth warehouse containing 50 rolls of cloth, 400 liters of gasoline, 1 kitchenware storehouse, 2 rice milling machines, 110 sacks of paddy, and 5,000 sacks. We seized 2 SKS guns, 1,000 rounds of SKS ammunition, 3 rolls of cloth, and a quantity of war materiel. We turned over all the seized materials to the inhabitants. We liberated five villages, namely Kantreang, Stoeng, Angkrong, (Ta Phok Khang Lich), and (Ta Phok Kaeut). We seized control of a 6-km stretch of Route 6 from Phum Stoeng to Roka Kambot village and freed and sent home 150 militiamen who have been forced to serve the Vietnamese enemy. [passage omitted]

Puok District: On 21 March, our National Army launched an attack to dismantle the Vietnamese village and commune administrative networks in Trei Nhor Commune of Puok District. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed 1 commune office, 10 barracks, and a material warehouse; seized 2 AK's and a quantity of materials which we distributed to the inhabitants; and liberated 10 villages, namely Chhuk, Trei Nhor, Trapeang Pring, (Svas), Thipdei, Ta Sok, Chambak Sar, Kouk Dong, (Chuor Chakrei), and Khvav. [passage omitted]

Varin District: On 18 March, our National Army launched an attack to dismantle the Vietnamese village and commune administrative networks in Kouk Dong Commune of Varin District. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed 15 barracks; seized an SKS and a quantity of war materiel; and liberated 8 villages, namely Kouk Snuol, Kouk Khlok, Roka, Kou Kraol, Khcha, (Pdiek), (Chek Tbo), and Prasat Trav. On 15 March, we ambushed a Vietnamese battalion moving from Phum Bot to Srangae. We killed six Vietnamese soldiers and wounded two others. The survivors turned back but hit our landmine, suffering three killed. On 19 March, two Vietnamese battalions were sent from Kouk Dong in an attempt to seize (Toap Svay) and Prasat villages from us and rob inhabitants in these areas. They killed two inhabitants before we chased them back. We killed two Vietnamese soldiers and wounded two others. [passage omitted]

Chikreng District: On 15 March, our National Army attacked and dismantled the Vietnamese administrations in three communes, namely Kompong Khleang, Peam Sangke, and Prey Sramaoch in Chikreng District and liberated three villages, namely Thnal Dach, Don Lei, and Trapeang Trei. [passage omitted]

VODK SAYS SRV SOLDIERS FLEE FROM KOMPONG THOM

BK290342 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 28 Mar 87

["News commentary": "The Vietnamese Aggressor Forces in Cambodia Are Increasingly Panicking"]

[Excerpt] On 17 March, when our National Army attacked Kompong Thom provincial town, hundreds of Vietnamese soldiers stationed in this town fled their positions because they were afraid that our National Army would attack and smash them as in the past. Eighty of these Vietnamese soldiers fled all the way home to Vietnam.

This shows that the Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia are increasingly panicking. Previously, this kind of incident occurred only in hilly or remote areas; now it is widespread. This is due to the increased and more vigorous attacks by our National Army and people who have cooperated in fighting the Vietnamese enemy everywhere. [passage omitted]

VODK SAYS SRV SOLDIERS KILL SUPERIORS IN KOMPONG THOM

BK300215 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] On the Kompong Thom battlefield, Vietnamese soldiers are afraid to go out to fight and are often at odds with their comrades. Due to our National Army's repeated and active attacks to smash the Vietnamese in and around Kompong Thom Town, Vietnamese soldiers are very afraid and nervous, and have been looking for opportunities to flee back to Vietnam. They often quarrel among themselves.

On 15 March, Vietnamese soldiers posted at Voar Yeav commune, north of Kompong Thom Town, killed two of their comrades; the remaining soldiers were jailed by their superiors. The cause of the incident was a dispute over failure to identify the location of planted mines, which results in three soldiers losing limbs when stepping on the mines.

On 17 March, Vietnamese soldiers stationed in Kompong Thom Town planted mines underneath their superiors' beds and exploded them, killing five officers. The perpetrators then fled home to Vietnam.

VIENTIANE COMMENTS ON ESPIONAGE TRIALS

Court Convicts Three

BK271350 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] The People's Court held a session this afternoon [27 March] in Vientiane to try three criminal cases. One of the cases involves Ounheuan Silimongkhon, of Lao nationality, 30 years old, born in Houei Sai village, Houei Sai District, Bokeo Province, who was charged with treason. He was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. The second case involves Manivong Keovisai, of Lao nationality, 18 years old, born in Thongpong village, Sikhottabong District, Vientiane Municipality, charged with treason. He was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

The last case involves Prayut Phothiwong, of Thai nationality, 19 years old, born in Langkhao village, (Thaphok) Precinct, (Thaphok) District, Saraburi Province, Thailand, charged with being a spy. He was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

The persons involved with the three cases were arrested by our authorities and people while carrying out espionage activities in Laos.

PASASON Criticizes CIA

BK280938 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 28 Mar 87

[28 March PASASON commentary: "Expose Crimes Committed by the Thai Ultrarightists and the CIA Against the LPDR"]

[Text] The People's Court tried and passed judgment on three lackeys of the CIA and the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries in Vientiane on the afternoon of 27 March before more than 300 Vientiane residents.

The court trial of the three persons -- Ounheuan Silimongkhon and Manivong Keovisai, both of Lao nationality, and Prayut Phothiwong, of Thai nationality, is another manifestation of the schemes and ill intentions of the Thai reactionaries and the CIA in opposing the LPDR.

Everyone knows that in 1979 the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand jointly issued joint communiques in which both sides promised to respect each other's sovereignty and not to interfere in each other's internal affairs. Since then the LPDR has strictly adhered to the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao joint communiques. On the contrary, the ultrarightists in the Thai ruling circles, colluding with and enjoying the assistance of the CIA, have persisted in their attempt to sabotage the Lao people's peaceful construction work. The ultrarightist reactionaries have attentively trained exiled Lao reactionaries and then sent them to carry out espionage activities in Laos continuously.

The arrest of Ounheuan Silimongkhon, Manivong Keovisai, and Prayut Phothiwong along with sufficient evidence and the confessions made by the lackeys of the Thai ultrarightists and the CIA, saying that they had acted on orders of the ultrarightists reactionaries and the CIA, and are clear and undeniable evidence on their acts against the LPDR.

The use of training of the Lao refugees and Thai citizens themselves to carry out sabotage activities against the Lao revolution are routine work of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries and the CIA.

The court judgment on the two Lao traitors and the Thai soldier, who were arrested while carrying out espionage activities in Laos together with some espionage equipment, is clear evidence showing the Thai side's intentions and actions against the LPDR. This runs counter to the Thai side's propaganda that it wants to improve and normalize neighborly relations between Laos and Thailand. The evidence also clearly proves that it is the Thai side which is responsible for sabotaging and obstructing the fine relations between the Lao and Thai peoples.

The crimes committed by the Thai reactionaries and the CIA once again remind the Lao and Thai peoples to jointly heighten their vigilance to counter the efforts to sabotage the time-honored relations between the two peoples and to normalize these fine relations in conformity with the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao communiques signed in 1979 and with the aspirations of the Lao and Thai peoples.

Feature on CIA Role

BK271431 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Feature: "CIA Under the Throne of Reagan"]

[Text] Among U.S. intelligence organizations, the CIA must be regarded as the most important. The CIA, with its headquarters outside Washington DC, has as many as 18,000 officials under its control. Its annual budget amounts to billions of dollars. It is responsible for U.S. activities inside and outside the country. The CIA's shadow covers every corner of the world. It has scientific institutes, industrial plants, an information networks, and airports and seaports both inside and outside the United States at its disposal.

Any U.S. President, whatever his party, must enjoy the cooperation of the CIA. For this reason, the organization has been termed the President's right hand. It is therefore not surprising that Reagan has attached importance to the organization. After taking over the White House, Reagan set up a new body called the 208 Committee. This committee is responsible for emphasizing the importance of the Department of Defense, the Department of State, and the CIA in opposing various countries throughout the world, particularly in carrying out interventionist schemes against developing countries. Since the birth of this committee the main objectives of its research have been Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Angola, Ethiopia, Libya, and Cambodia.

Moreover, Reagan increased the special privileges for the CIA by signing documents No 12-333 in the latter part of (?1986) authorizing secret CIA activities to assist U.S. troops based in foreign countries. In March 1984, Reagan gave permission to the CIA to completely destroy all organizations suspected of threatening the stability of the United States.

As for its budget, the CIA used to receive \$750 million a year. After Reagan took over, the budget increased to \$1.8 billion a year. Under Reagan's command, the CIA has expanded in all spheres. For example, in 1985 the CIA's activities increased five times compared with the pre-Reagan period. The CIA has been responsible for various actions in Grenada, Nicaragua, Libya, and other hot spots throughout the world.

Recently, the CIA under the throne of Reagan was shaken by the secret arms deal with Iran, known as Irangate. According to foreign news sources, early in 1986 Reagan gave special instructions to the CIA to take responsibility for selling arms to Iran and sending the profits to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua. As a result, William Casey, the CIA's old-timer, was admitted to the emergency room of a hospital.

The Irangate case has not yet been resolved. The CIA was so badly shaken that its chief was replaced. Reagan, the head of the machinery, is also in trouble. So far no one knows what Reagan's fate will be and how the CIA will emerge.

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION VISITS LAOS 24-26 MAR

LD271021 Budapest MTI in English 1902 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Vientiane, March 26 (MTI) -- A delegation of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front and the Hungarian Solidarity Committee headed by Robert Ribanszhi, secretary of the National Council of Patriotic People's Front and vice president of the Hungarian Solidarity Committee visited the Lao People's Democratic Republic March 24th to 26th.

In Vientiane the delegation held talks with Bouland Boulapha, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, vice president of the Lao Front for National Reconstruction, on the cooperation of the two movements and developing relations.

They briefed one another on the situations in their countries, and on the domestic and international work of their movements. The delegation held talks with Hieme Pomachanh, vice president of the Lao Peace, Solidarity and People's Friendship Committee. The delegation insured the solidarity of the Hungarian people in the building of socialism underway in Laos, and in the endeavour of Laos for the consolidation of peace in southeast Asia, and the strengthening of cooperation among the states of the region based on mutual interest. The delegation was received by Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the Political Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Lao Front for National Reconstruction. The delegation left Vientiane Thursday.

Delegation Departs

BK271058 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] The delegation of the Patriotic People's Front of the Hungarian People's Republic led by Robert Ribanszki, secretary of the Front and vice chairman of the Hungarian Committee for Solidarity With Other Nations, left Vientiane for home yesterday afternoon after concluding a 3-day friendly visit to the LPDR.

During its stay, the delegation paid a courtesy call on Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the LPDR, and met and exchanged experience with a delegation of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee. It visited the party committee and the administrative committee of Vientiane municipality and the office of the Lao Committee for Peace and for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Nations. It also toured some cultural foundations in Vientiane.

On hand to see the delegation off at the airport were Bolang Boualapha, member of the LPRP Central Committee and vice chairman and standing member of the LFNC Central Committee; Laszlo Rosta, Hungarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos; and cadres concerned.

PARTY RELATIONS WITH FRATERNAL PARTIES VIEWED

BK260350 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Feature: "The Relations Between the LPRP and Fraternal Parties"]

[Text] Thirty-two years ago, the LDRP -- the continuator of the cause of the Indochinese Communist Party -- was founded. The emergence of the Marxist-Leninist party on Lao soil constituted a very significant event in the Lao revolution. Since that time the Lao people of all tribes began to have a leadership organization to guide them to carry on the national liberation struggle to liberate their country from the administrative yoke of the feudalists and the colonialists and neocolonialists. That is why, throughout the existence of the LPRP, the Lao people have managed to score one great victory after another, completely liberated the country, and majestically established the LPDR on 2 December 1975. The 1975 victory was like a bell sounding throughout the world telling the people that the national-democratic revolution in Laos had just ended and the new period of the revolution -- the socialist revolution -- had just begun.

Since its establishment, the LPRP has exerted great efforts to forge, consolidate, and improve its relations with the fraternal parties with a view to contributing to their common cause of struggling for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism. We are all fully aware that the LPRP is part of the international communist and workers movement and a genuine Marxist-Leninist party which has creatively applied Marxism-Leninism to the reality in Laos. Our party has established relations with the communist and workers parties in the socialist community on the basis of socialist internationalism. These relations have grown stronger both vertically and horizontally. Because our cause is just and correct, therefore, our struggle during the period of the national-democratic revolution as well as during the current period of socialist transformation and construction has received sympathy and invaluable support and assistance from all peace- and justice-loving parties and people throughout the world, particularly from the parties and peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia, the Soviet Union, and the other fraternal socialist countries.

Following the great nationwide victory of our revolution and the establishment of the LPDR on 2 December 1975, our party's relations with the fraternal parties in the socialist community have been consolidated even more strongly to enter a new stage with new quality. Such development can be seen from our joint activities in the international arena, adopting unanimous views on various important issues of the epoch as well as on regional and world issues, and joining efforts in the struggle to halt the threat of nuclear war. A clear example of the strengthening of the relations between our party and the fraternal parties is the exchange of mutual friendship visits between our party and state leaders and those of the fraternal countries, the sending of high-level party delegations to attend the congress of each other's party, the exchange of technical delegations to consult with each other on certain issues, and the close coordination in carrying out the struggle in the international arena to safeguard peace.

The fourth party congress highly valued the solidarity between our party and the fraternal parties and clearly spelled out our party's and state's foreign policy. That is, to incessantly strengthen and consolidate the militant solidarity and to broaden our all-round cooperation with Vietnam, Cambodia, the Soviet Union and the fraternal countries of the socialist community is the consistent foreign policy of our party and state and a decisive factor in the victory of our people both in the immediate and long-term revolutionary periods.

The militant solidarity, special relations, and all-round cooperation among the three Indochinese countries are significant to the destiny of each country, a law for development of the revolutions in the three countries, and a necessary condition for them to fulfill together the historical obligations of securely defending the socialist outpost in Southeast Asia.

We always deeply understand that the Soviet Union is our strategic ally and reliable bulwark. Close relationship with this country is always a principle of diplomatic strategy of our party and state.

Over the past 10 years, all successes of the Lao revolution cannot be separated from the sympathy, support, and precious assistance of the CPSU and the state and fraternal people of the Soviet Union. The exchange of visits and discussions between the top party-state leaders and those of various mass organizations and the broadened relations and cooperation in all spheres are a manifestation of the high-level solidarity and unity between the two parties and of the close friendly relations between Laos and the Soviet Union.

We are pleased with the relations between our country and our fraternal socialist countries, which are developing splendidly with each passing day. The sympathy and support of the fraternal parties were reflected during their participation in the Third and Fourth LPRP Congresses. At these solemn congresses, particularly at the fourth congress, delegations of fraternal parties emphasized the close relations between their parties and the LPRP. Regarding this, Comrade Pham Van Dong, member of the CPV Central Committee Politburo, said: The militant solidarity, fraternal friendship, and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and Laos, painstakingly cultivated by President Ho Chi Minh and tempered in the long revolutionary struggle for several generations, have become an internationalist pure and faithful relationship. This is an invaluable asset of the two peoples, a law governing the existence and development of the revolution of each country.

At the Fourth LPRP Congress, KPRP General Secretary Comrade Heng Samrin said in part: We will actively consolidate, build and strengthen the ties of militant solidarity, special friendship, and effective, all-round cooperation with the fraternal Vietnamese and Lao peoples and with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, thus contributing to building the three Indochinese countries and Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and prosperity.

At this same congress Comrade Aliyev, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, said in part: Cooperation between the Soviet Union and Laos embraces virtually all spheres of social and economic life. The relations between the two parties and countries are built on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

Meetings between high-level leaders of the two parties have resulted in multilateral cooperation. For example, during the recent official visit to Laos by Comrade Shevardnadze, USSR foreign minister and Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee, the two sides signed a joint statement -- a contribution to strengthening the militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between the two countries.

We are happy and greatly pleased with the fact that the fraternal relations and multifaceted cooperation between the LPDR and the GDR as well as the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community have been strengthened with each passing day. This was a high evaluation made by Comrade Werner Walde, candidate member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee, at the Fourth LPRP Congress. The official visit to Laos by the GDR foreign minister in March 1987 was also a contribution to strengthening the militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between the two countries on the basis of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed between the two countries in 1982.

Relations between our party and the communist and workers parties of various capitalist and nationalist countries, based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, are broadly developing with each passing day. The exchange of visits and experience has increased. Various fraternal countries have turned their attention to the experience gained by our party in applying Marxism-Leninism to the true situation in Laos and in leading the previous national-democratic revolution and the present national defense and socialist construction.

At the same time, the party-guided activities of various state and mass organizations have been broadened. Together with the various peace and democratic forces and progressive people, we are strengthening the struggle against the arms race by the imperialists and reactionaries and for the defense of peace and survival of mankind. Thanks to these activities and struggles, our party's role and prestige have been upheld in the international arena with each passing day, thereby importantly contributing to strengthening the unity of the international communist and workers movement, and shifting the balance of force in favor of peace and socialism.

In our capacity as a member of the socialist community and as a member of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement, we will try our best to contribute to the common struggle of various countries for peace and international security and for friendship among nations on this planet. In this spirit, the LPRP fully supports the various initiatives and constructive attitude of the Soviet Union with regard to the settlement of international problems. We support initiatives advanced by the Soviet Union on 15 January and on 28 July 1986 with regard to the question of security in Asia and the Pacific and on 28 February 1987 with regard to the separation of the issue of medium-range missiles in Europe from the Reykjavik proposals and other proposals aimed at improving the international atmosphere.

The LPRP supports the peace proposals advanced by other fraternal socialist countries. For its part, it will contribute to turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation and will carry out its heavy obligations in its capacity as a country standing on the outpost of socialism in Southeast Asia, thus contributing to the common cause of peace and consolidating the unity among the fraternal parties and the international communist and workers movements.

Particularly in 1987, which marks the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution -- a historic event in the 20's, [number as heard] we are ready to do everything to make the celebration of this important day a political study and training campaign for the whole party, army, and people so as to jointly fulfill the fourth party congress resolutions and to contribute to the common struggle against the imperialists and reactionary forces and for peace and international security.

EDITORIAL VIEWS 'ROUGH RELATIONS' WITH LAOS

BK271128 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 26 Mar 87 p 6

[Editorial: "Rough Relations"]

[Text] The visit to Thailand by a Lao delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat eventually took place despite an almost 1-month delay and exchanges of diplomatic criticism. This visit should be regarded as a new step in the attempt to improve relations between Thailand and Laos. It is a pity that such an endeavor has encountered all sorts of difficulties and uneasiness.

Souban Salitthilat formerly informed the Thai side that he would visit Thailand in late February in return for the visit to Laos by a Thai delegation headed by Arun Phanuphong in November last year. Later he requested the trip be postponed. But Lao Embassy officials told reporters that the Thai side unilaterally announced the visit; this prompted a denial from the Thai Foreign Ministry.

The unevenness of the relations between the two countries does not stop there. Less than 1 week before Souban left for Thailand, Phanthong Phommahasai, acting-head of the Lao Press Department, told the Lao mass media that a 9 March predawn explosion was the work of "bad elements in Thailand" who sent Lao rightist refugees back to conduct subversive activities in Vientiane.

The roughness of the relations between the two countries has resulted in suspicion on the part of Lao senior officials. Thus, the Thai side had to do something to remedy the situation, such as repatriating Hmong refugees, after which the U.S. Government accused Thailand of having violated the American standard of human rights.

Thai authorities said that the repatriation of the Hmong refugees was aimed at eliminating suspicion and misunderstanding by the Lao side prior to the Lao deputy foreign minister's visit to Thailand. It is obvious that both sides are aware of the fact that relations between their two countries are difficult and rough. The question that has arisen is how to improve those relations.

Souban Salitthilat stated upon his arrival that he came here to hold talks with the Thai side to tackle the "existing problems between the two countries." However, he failed to point out the problems which remained unsolved. So far, the record shows that problems between Thailand and Laos range from a border disputes to trade, transportation of Lao transit goods, and the opening of passes along the border passes.

Looking further into the problems, one can see that mutual "distrust" still remains deep in the hearts of both sides. The more distrust they can eliminate, the more they can improve relations between their two countries. Another important thing is that they must have independent foreign policies, refrain from leaning on any camp or other country, and treasure goodneighborly relations.

Nobody can guarantee that Thai-Lao relations will develop into intimate or "brotherly" ties. Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila has agreed to visit Laos on the condition that the outcome of talks during Souban's visit is favorable. Souban's visit is an indication of the rough relations.

TROOPS 'PARTIALLY' RECAPTURE BORDER HILLS

BK290240 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Thai troops partially recaptured hills 408 and 382 at Chong Bok Pass in Ubon Ratchathani Province after fierce fighting with Vietnamese troops last Thursday, an army source said yesterday.

He said Thai troops launched all-out attacks against Vietnamese positions on the two hills and the Vietnamese retaliated with artillery and mortar fire, causing many casualties on both sides.

Thai troops, the source said, destroyed two Vietnamese bunkers and seized a large number of weapons, ammunition and grenades from the two camps.

He said they found the bodies of 19 Vietnamese soldiers, one of them apparently a lieutenant, after the Vietnamese had retreated.

Thai troops were working to clear the areas that had been retaken of an estimated 100,000 land mines and booby traps.

The source said Thai troops would also attack Vietnamese positions on Hill 500.

SUPREME COMMAND REPORTS CAMBODIAN REFUGEE FIGURES

BK290840 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] According to the Supreme Command Information Office, 274,672 Cambodians have fled from Vietnamese soldiers and fighting in Cambodia to the Thai-Cambodian border. Of these, 62,545 are in the Sisaket and Surin border areas; 174,836 are in the Prachin Buri border area: 143,914 in the Site 2 camp in Ta Phraya District and 30,922 in the Site 8 camp in Khlong Hat Subdistrict; and 37,291 are in the Chanthaburi and Trat border areas.

REFUGEE OFFICE STATEMENT ON HMONG ISSUE

BK260900 Bangkok NAO NA in Thai 26 Mar 87 pp 1, 16

[Text] On 25 March the Refugee Administration Office of the Interior Ministry issued a statement responding to press reports concerning the repatriation of 38 Hmong refugees and 97 Hmong people who paid some Thai citizens to help them enter the country illegally from Ban Winai Refugee Center in Pak Chom District of Loei Province. The United States has protested this matter and accused Thailand of having violated human rights. The Thai Government, on the other hand, says that the United States is interfering in Thailand's internal affairs. The statements says:

There are currently two refugee holding centers for hilltribe people in Thailand -- at Chiang Kham District of Phayao Province and Pak Chom District of Loei Province.

The number of refugees legally registered at the two centers is 45,785. The birth rate among the refugees at the Ban Winai center is as high as 5.6 percent. Many illegal Lao immigrants are believed to have been hiding at the center, which covers a mountainous area of 705 rai. The Thai Government and the United Nations do not have sufficient funds to fence the center, which makes it difficult for the authorities to control the situation.

Since 1975, 67,792 Hmong refugees have been sent from Thailand for resettlement in the United States while another 58,300 remain stranded in this country. Senior officials at the U.S. Embassy have said that these Hmong refugees are entitled to resettlement in the United States, but they have failed to specify the number of refugees that the United States will take annually or the date when all the refugees will be removed from Thailand.

On 1 July 1985, the Thai Government started the classification of Lao refugees in Thailand to separate bona fide refugees who cannot stay in their homeland for fear of persecution from the those whose entry into the country cannot be justified. As a result of the operation, there are now 4,540 bona fide Lao refugees -- 3,953 lowland people and 587 tribesmen -- and 1,951 bogus refugees -- 1,788 lowland people and 163 tribesmen -- who are awaiting repatriation to Laos.

During the past 12 months a large number of hilltribe people from Laos have entered the country illegally and have been hiding at Ban Winai Center. Most of them are addicted to opium and marijuana, and their presence at the center has induced drug trafficking. From 1984 to 1986, Thai authorities registered 18 cases of opium trading involving 74 persons, with 2,677 grams of the drug being confiscated.

On 19 January 1987, Police Corporal Anon Thammacharoen, a policeman stationed at Ban Winai Center, was shot dead while searching suspected traffickers. There are indications that the 38 Lao hilltribe people who were hiding at the center, as well as the 97 others who bought their way into the kingdom, have been trying to avoid screening.

For security reasons, the provincial governor has ordered the arrest of the Lao people who are hiding and trying to sneak into the center before sending them out of the country again. Such actions conform to the Thai Government's Indochinese refugee policy which is based on both humanitarian principles and the country's security.

Meanwhile, Deputy Interior Permanent Secretary Charoenchi na Songkhla disclosed that more than 70 Hmong people will be sent back to Laos like the earlier 38. Thailand has the right to do this. The provincial authority will later consult with the National Security Council regarding the timing of their departure.

PROGRAM DEFENDS REPATRIATION OF HMONG

BK271245 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 26 Mar 87

["Sayamanusati" program]

[Text] In recent days the press has again carried headline stories about Thailand being accused of human rights violations. The country which accused us is none other than our same old great friend. Thailand has countered the charge saying that all along we have shouldered this heavy burden of human rights, but we also have to think of our own security.

Yes, "Sayamanusati" thinks that this is a heavy burden for Thailand, and that it involves our national security in various respects. Our program will therefore dwell on this subject, and this morning we present an article entitled: "Human Rights and Thailand's Security."

Our listeners must have already read that Thailand was accused by the U.S. of violating human rights by forcibly repatriating illegal Hmong immigrants. Our Interior Ministry refuted the charge immediately saying that it was Thailand's duty and right to take such measures, and that it should not pose a problem since it has been undertaken on the basis of national security and in accordance with the policy of the National Security Council. Those Hmong people entered Thailand illegally. They are criminals and drug traffickers. They even killed a Thai police official. It is therefore unfair for the United States to accuse Thailand of violating human rights. The United States has no right to make such an accusation.

The director of the Information and Foreign Affairs Division of the Office of the Interior Ministry Permanent Secretary, in his capacity as deputy director of the Refugee Administration Center, explained that, according to procedures, those seeking asylum in this country must first report to the local district or police authorities for screening as to their eligibility for refugee status. About 100 Hmong immigrants sneaked into Ban Winai camp in Pak Chom District, Loei Province, without reporting to the local police or district authorities. They have therefore been repatriated as they entered the country illegally.

In principle, we accept asylum seekers only after we are sure that they will not engage in activities endangering Thailand's national security, and we accept them only on a humanitarian basis. There is no reason for us to take if we know that they will be a danger to our national security. In the case of these Hmong, it is a question of national security, not human rights. Even though they might have reported to the Thai authorities in keeping with regulations, we still would not be able to take them. At present, there are another 97 Hmong people trying to get into Ban Winai camp by bribing Thai authorities. We are already taking action against them.

Once, in Nakhon Phanom Province, the United States interviewed refugees for resettlement in the United States. Although most of the refugees had relatives in the United States, they were refused resettlement. It therefore became necessary for us to repatriate those people. We cannot give asylum to those people because they entered the country illegally. There is no need for us to contact the military authorities in their country. What we have to do is push them out of our territory.

The deputy director of the Refugee Administration Center added that the United States has gone too far in accusing us of violating human rights. He said that as we are old friends he did not want to say anything which could harm our friendship, although it is a fact that what the United States was doing was interference in our internal affairs. As for our refusal to give U.S. officials access to Ban Winai camp -- it is true, because they never contacted us in advance for permission to enter. They cannot simply enter the camp whenever they wish. What right do they have? The United States itself has its own laws concerning screening refugees. Why then is it protesting about us applying our own laws concerning refugees?

On this matter, the Interior Ministry will send a letter to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees explaining that the Hmong are illegal immigrants, and that their motives for entering Thailand are not honest. The ministry will emphasize that those who enter the country illegally and with insincere motives will continue to be repatriated.

Thailand, meanwhile, will not extend the 30 June deadline for U.S. interviewing of refugees. Those who have not been interviewed will be listed as not accepted for resettlement in third countries, and will be repatriated to their respective countries.

What the Interior Ministry has done is correct. The refugees we have taken in on human rights grounds or on a humanitarian basis have caused us a great deal of trouble for quite some time already. Meanwhile, we have never seen anybody strictly adhering to the humanitarian principle or human rights while clamoring that Thailand should shoulder this heavy burden. We have our own domestic problems to solve -- from both external and internal factors. There are economic, social, political, and military problems and yet we still have to shoulder the heavy burden of sheltering and feeding the refugees. We have to deploy large numbers of officials to take care of these people and we have to deal with numerous social problems caused by their presence in our country. As they belong to various groups adopting different ideologies and having different leaders, they tend to quarrel with each other.

More important is the problem of their fertility -- as they have nothing to do, they tend to make use of their leisure time procreating. Their population is always increasing. In political and military terms they are also problems to Thailand. It is not easy for Thailand to distinguish between genuine refugees and those who are sent into Thailand for spying or subversive activities.

We have read quite often in the press that some are sent into Thailand for subversive activities, for gathering information, and for instigating their fellow countrymen already living in Thailand. Some of them are sent for our military secrets. Some are sent here as reinforcements to communist terrorists in Thailand. Some of them are sent to carry out sabotage activities here. This is what we have to face. No country, nobody, no organization has ever really sympathized with us over this problem. We have been urged by appeals, or even demands, to assume responsibility for this heavy burden alone. Concerning promises to take these people for resettlement in third countries, we are already aware of the trick. This is what they do -- they interview these people and select only those who are good and competent, who have an education and professional expertise for resettlement in their respective countries. Then they claim that their action is based on humanitarian principles and human rights!

In fact, they are only selecting the best human resources for their countries; they ignore those who are incompetent, whom they think will be a waste of money to take. Yet, the clamor about humanitarian principles and human rights has forced Thailand to take hundreds of thousands of refugees for shelter.

Let us think about who it is that is inhuman and violates human rights. Who spoke up about humanitarian principles and human rights when the refugee camps were pounded by Vietnamese artillery fire, when refugees were killed and wounded, and when their camps were destroyed?

We hear only words, but no action has been taken to effectively solve the problem. Worse still, the voices we hear are even accusing Thailand of violating human rights. We would like to know who it really is who is violating human rights?

For all these reasons, we fully endorse our Interior Ministry's explanation countering the charge against our country. Let us continue to give priority to our national security.

THAILAND, OTHERS SIGN OFFSHORE MINERALS MEMORANDUM

BK270915 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Representatives from seven Asian countries yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding of the Committee for Coordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas, or CCOP, at Government House. The ceremony was presided over by Deputy Prime Minister Major General Chatchai Chunhawan and was attended by representatives of CCOP member countries including China, Democratic Kampuchea, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand. The CCOP was created in 1966 under the patronage of the United Nations Development Program, UNDP, and ESCAP. The main purpose of CCOP is to promote and coordinate planning and implementation of joint prospecting programs and research in the offshore and related areas of its member countries.

OFFICIAL SPEAKS ON TRADE TIES WITH U.S.

BK260245 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Mar 87 p 13

[Text] Trade relations between Thailand and the US will constantly bring the two countries into conflict, necessitating compromise through a lot of 'horse-trading', according to Commercial Registration Department [DCR] Director General Sukhon Kanchanalai.

Ms Sukhon told the American Chamber of Commerce yesterday this trading process would be protracted and, although often difficult, would attract a large number of participants.

Two vexatious issues at present are protection of intellectual property rights and the liberalisation in the trade of services between nations, both of which were raised at GATT's Uruguay Round last year.

"Considering the social and economic development level of our society (Thailand), I fear that strong US interests in the two issues -- intellectual property and service trade -- are hypersensitive, extremely complex and profoundly complicated," Ms Sukon said as part of her speech on DCR perceptions on some Thai-US current issues. "To find reasonable solutions will require a lot of patience and a lot of understanding."

She said there had already been a number of seminars and round-table discussions to try and resolve the problems associated with the two issues, but little progress had been made beyond people simply expressing views.

Ms Sukhon said Thailand had begun to explore various policy alternatives for trade in services and to assess their impact on the security, strength and flexibility of the economy. "This ground work will form a basis upon which the Government will make political decisions.

"Within the present legal framework, we have undertaken to streamline rules, regulations and procedures to make them more reasonable, more logical more pragmatic, more certain and, specifically, more comfortable to the open-market policy of the present government."

"We have revised our thinking on conditions relating to the granting of licences under Category C of the Alien Business Decree for new applicants and in cases of mergers.

We have more or less removed restrictions on the expansion of business entities operated prior to the implementation of the decree.

"Over and above that, we have, in view of changing business conditions, reviewed our thinking on all three categories of restriction on business.

"Essentially, we look at the decree as a basic foreign investment law: In what economic activities and how far in each activity we are going to allow foreigners to invest capital, management and technology, taking into account possible adverse consequences on the security, strength and flexibility of our economy in the foreseeable future."

As for the exchange of views over the trademark law, Ms. Sukhon said these were more or less completed and a new bill, incorporating protection for trademarks, had now been drafted which would extend coverage to service and certification marks.

She said the bill also contained sanction provisions, prescribing civil and criminal redress for infringement. This provision will facilitate law enforcement since the sanction no longer offered defence on the general provisions of infringement under the Civil and Commercial Code.

The bill is expected to go before Parliament in the coming session.

Despite the self-satisfaction of the personnel involved in drafting the bill, she said it had been criticised by US and European authorities who said it did not go far enough in providing protection.

The criticisms centred on the bill's failure to cover several inventions and improvements including pharmaceutical products and ingredients because these products should not be subject to monopolisation.

Computer software and semiconductor chips have been another problematic area and the current feeling is that the two should be covered by separate legislation.

Ms Sukhon defended the bill by saying its provisions would be satisfactory if given the right interpretation, adding that her department's legal experts were currently working on the fine tuning.

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER JAPANESE TRADE WITH SRV

BK300127 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Thailand has told Japan of its concerns over plans by some Japanese private companies to trade with Vietnam and to provide the communist country with long-term credits.

Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan said contacts between the Japanese firms and Hanoi could send a wrong signal about Japan's policy toward Vietnam.

Japan has halted all economic and development aid to Vietnam after the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea in 1979. But Japan does not prohibit private trade with Hanoi.

Praphat returned to Bangkok on Saturday after a one-week visit to Japan and South Korea. The minister said he conveyed the Thai concerns to Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari and the Keidanren, the most powerful group of industrialists in Japan.

Nissho Iwai Corp, a major Japanese trading company, recently agreed to help Vietnam with development projects in the field of agriculture, fisheries and new oil fields. The vice president of the company, Masao Araki, visited Hanoi with a team of company officials last month during which the agreement was reached.

An official of the company said it had reported to the Japanese Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry about the outcome of the Vietnam trip.

The same company also plans to extend long-term credits to Vietnam to finance the purchase of old train carriages from Japan's National Railway Company.

Last week, KYODO NEWS SERVICE reported that Japanese and Vietnamese trading interests agreed to join in constructing a three-storey office building in Hanoi to house foreign companies.

It said the Vietnamese side would offer the land and labour and the Japanese would find financing from among 83 member companies of the Japan-Vietnam Trade Association in Japan.

The Thai Government has been discouraging foreign countries from trading with Vietnam to signal their opposition to Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea.

An informed source in the Foreign Ministry said Thailand is considering asking other ASEAN countries to take a joint position on the issue "to remind Japan that the eight-year-old Kampuchean problems has not yet been solved."

Japan has insisted that its policy toward the Kampuchean conflict remains unchanged and official assistance to Vietnam would resume only after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

Praphat told reporters that the Japanese side took note of Thailand's concerns as expressed by him.

During his visit to South Korea, Praphat said he won a commitment from the Foreign Ministry and parliamentarians there to find ways to import more tapioca products from Thailand.

Recently, South Korea agreed to buy 30,000 tons of tapioca chips from Thailand.

MALAYSIA CRITICIZED OVER TRAWLER CAPTURES

BK261017 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 26 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Text] Plotprasop Suratwadi, director general of the Fishery Department, disclosed on 25 March that the fishery radio station in Songkhla Province reported to the ministry that on 20 March 2 Malaysian warships captured 8 Thai fishing trawlers with 201 crewmen in a triangular area at 7 degrees north latitude and 104 degree east longitude along the Thai-Malaysian border.

Plotprasop said that during the administration of Prime Minister General Kriangsak Chamanan Thai and Malaysian delegations met in Chiang Mai Province to discuss this long-standing controversy and agreed that both Thai and Malaysian fishermen are allowed to fish in the triangular area.

Plotprasop noted that the incident has proven that the Malaysian side refuses to comply with the agreement, even resorting to violence against Thai fishing trawlers. Earlier, both sides had held talks on this issue and agreed to try to avoid such a skirmish.

Consequently, the Fishery Department has drafted a 4-point demand as follows:

1. Fishermen of both countries should be allowed to fish in the triangular area.
2. Any hostile act should be avoided; otherwise, it might call for retaliation from the Thai side. Thai fishermen should not be treated as criminals. Friendship must be considered if the Malaysian side files any legal charges against them.
3. Because of the language barrier, the arrested Thai fishermen must be allowed to have their own lawyers to fight the cases.
4. Negotiations should be opened to explore joint fishing ventures.

Plotprasop said that Vietnam has captured the most Thai fishing trawlers, followed by Malaysia. In the case of Malaysia, the problem can be resolved by inaugurating an ASEAN joint fishing program.

Sitthi Seeks Explanation

BK310130 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila has cabled his Malaysian counterpart to ask for facts about the seizure of four Thai trawlers and their crew last week, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat said yesterday.

Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon yesterday urged ACM Sitthi to quickly find a solution to the fishing dispute.

Mr Sarot said that, in the cable, ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi called on Malaysia to investigate the seizures to help ease tension caused by the incident.

"We request that incidents like this not be repeated and we ask that actions against Thai fishermen be taken in accordance with human rights and neighbourly relations," said the spokesman, quoting the cable.

The cable also charged that the captured fishermen had been forced to confess.

Mr Sarot said the Foreign Ministry had proposed to the Cabinet the setting up of a joint commission with Malaysia to solve problems between the two countries, including on fishing.

He pleaded with the fishermen to be patient, saying that the Government was trying its best to solve the problem.

While about 3,000 fishermen continued their protest against the seizures in Pattani yesterday, their representatives submitted a letter to an aide of Gen Prem that called on the Government to:

- negotiate the right for Thai fishing boats to pass undisturbed through Malaysian waters,
- despatch naval craft to protect Thai fishing boats to pass undisturbed through Malaysian waters to international waters,
- secure the release of all Thai fishermen being held by Malaysia, and
- allow trawlers to use military radio frequencies to seek help from Thai naval vessels.

Deputy Interior Minister Santi Chaiwirattana yesterday met the protesting fishermen in Pattani and told them to be patient.

"Violent means will not help solve the problem," he told the protesters, and asked them to give the authorities a week to secure the release of the captured crewmen.

In Bangkok, another deputy interior minister, Sawai Phatthano, said he suspected Malaysia's motives for the arrests and seizures, saying they were being unusually harsh.

The deputy minister, returning from a visit to the South over the weekend, said that the trawlers may have been seized because Thai fishermen catch much more fish than their Malaysian counterparts. He said he had heard that, because most Thai trawlers were better equipped than Malaysian boats, the trawlers were being seized and sold to Malaysian fishermen at 70 percent of the costs. Mr Sawai said, however, that these were only his personal views, and that the Government should urge Malaysia to negotiate a solution soon.

SOUTHERN MUSLIM SEPARATIST MOVEMENT IN DISARRAY

BK280854 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] The southern Thai Muslim separatist movement is now in disarray as a result of continuous suppression. The 4th Army deputy commander, Major General Ophat Phohiphaet, said that from May 1986 to February this year the 4th Army units clashed with the southern bandits on five occasions. They captured 4 camps which comprised 67 huts, and 9 bivouacs, with 5 temporary shelters. Some weapons were also seized. Three separatists were killed in the clashes. The general said that some of the bandits had also fled the country, and those remaining had been avoiding contact with government forces.

HANOI ANNOUNCES MORE ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES

BK291342 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] We now invite our friends to listen to our reading of the continuation of the list of candidates for election to the eighth National Assembly:

Quang Ninh Province:

-- Electoral Unit 1, comprising Dong Trieu, Yen Hung, and Hoanh Bo Districts and Uong Bi City, is to elect three deputies from five candidates:

1) Vu thi Binh, chief of a production team of the Dong Thanh Chinaware Cooperative, Dong Trieu District; 2) Pham The Duet, secretary of the CPV Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Union; 3) Leu Vu Lien, member of the party committee of Dong Trieu District and chief of a production team of the Mao Khe Mine; 4) Nguyen Thi Lach, deputy secretary of the party chapter and chief of a production team of the Anh Hong Chinaware Cooperative, Dong Trieu District; and 5) Phan Cong San, member of the party committee of Uong Bi City and chief of a production team of the Vany Danh Mine.

-- Electoral Unit 2, comprising Cam Pha and Ba Che Districts and the cities of Hong Gai and Cam Pha, is to elect three deputies from five candidates:

1) Dinh Thi Chinh, deputy chief of the Metallurgical Office of the Cam Pha center's engineering plant; 2) Vu Ngoc Hai, member of the CPV Central Committee and minister of energy; 3) Tran Quoc Vien, member of the provincial party committee, colonel, commander of the border defense forces in Quang Ninh; 4) Do Kim Nam, engineer of mine economics of the Cua Ong Coal Sorting Enterprise; and 5) Nguyen Sung Lam, lieutenant general, commander of the Quang Ninh Special Zone, and deputy to the Seventh National Assembly.

-- Electoral Unit 3, comprising Tien Yen, Quang Ha, Hai Ninh, and Binh Lieu Districts, is to elect two deputies from four candidates:

1) Nguyen Duy Nhuong, member of the Standing Committee of the district party committee and acting chairman of the People's Committee of Hai Nih District; 2) Tang Manh Tau, member of the district party committee and vice chairman of the people's committee of Phong Cu village, Tien Yen District, of the Dao Thanh nationality; 3) Hun Hop Xay, chairman of the people's committee of Quang Duc village, Quang Ha District, of the Dao nationality; and 4) Do Quang Trung, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the provincial party committee.

Ha Tuyen Province:

-- Electoral Unit 1, comprising Meo Vanc, Dong Van, Yen Minh, Quan Ba, Bac Me, and Vi Xuyen Districts and Ha Giang City, is to elect two deputies from three candidates:

1) Duong Minh Chu, member of the Standing Committee of the district party committee and chairman of the Meo Vac District People's Committee, of the Hmong nationality;

2) Dang Van Bong, member of the Standing Committee of the district party committee, lieutenant colonel, commander of the military command of Bac Me District, of the Dao nationality; and 3) Trang Mi Thao, principal of the Tap Trung Basic General School, Tong Thai village, Yen Minh District, of the Hmong nationality.

-- Electoral Unit 2, comprising Xin Man, Hoang Xu Phi, Bac Quang, and Ham Yen Districts, is to elect two deputies from four candidates:

1) Nong Cong Du, deputy secretary of the district party committee and chairman of the Xin Man District People's Committee, of the La Chi nationality; 2) Ly Thi Pha, member of the district party committee, member of the Executive Committee of the provincial Women's Union, and chairwoman of the Vi Xuyen District Women's Union, of the Tay nationality; 3) Giang Thi Tin, deputy chief justice of the provincial People's Court, of the La Chi nationality; and 4) Vu Thi Thuong, member of the CVP Committee and chairwoman of the Women's Union of Quang Ninh village, Bac Quang District, of the Tay nationality.

-- Electoral Unit 3, comprising Na Hang, Chiem Hoa, Son Duong, and Yen Son Districts and Tuyen Quang City, is to elect three deputies from five candidates:

1) Nguyen Van Duc, member of the CPV Central Committee and vice minister of interior; 2) Duong Van Hanh, member of the district party committee and head of the Administrative Organization Committee of Son Duong District, of the San Chay nationality; 3) Tran Minh, director of the Yen Linh Cement Enterprises; 4) Lam Dai Nam, member of the provincial party committee, member of the provincial people's committee, and chairman of the provincial Inspection Committee, of the San Chay nationality; and 5) Tran Trung Nhat, member of the Standing Committee of the provincial party committee and vice chairman of the provincial people's committees.

Bac Thai Province

-- Electoral Unit 1, comprising Pho Yen and Phu Binh Districts and Song Cong and Thai Nguyen cities, is to elect three deputies from five candidates:

1) Nguyen Khanh, secretary of the CPV Central Committee and concurrently vice chairman and general secretary of the Council of Ministers; 2) Ngo Huy San, director general of the Thai Nguyen joint cast-iron and steel enterprise; 3) Tran Minh Thanh, deputy chief of Thinh Duc Village Public Security Service, Thai Nguyen City, a member of the San Diu ethnic minority group; 4) Nguyen Thi Thuan, chief of production team of Quang Vinh village agricultural cooperative, Thai Nguyen City, a member of the San Diu ethnic minority group.

-- Electoral Unit 2, comprising Dong Hi, Dai Tu, Vo Nhai, and Phu Luong Districts, is to elect three deputies from among five candidates; 1) Dam Sinh Hoi, head of the Cadre Committee of the provincial military command, a member of the Dao ethnic minority group; 2) Trieu Quang, deputy secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's committee of Vo Nhai District, a member of the Dao ethnic minority group; 23) (Dang Quoc Tin), deputy secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial people's committees; 4) Le Ngoc Tro, member of the provincial party committee, candidate doctor of medicine, acting rector of the Bac Thai College of Medicine, and acting director of the Thai Nguyen General Hospital.

5) Chu Hong Viet, member of the Standing Committee of Dai Tu district party committee, a member of the Nung ethnic minority group.

-- Electoral Unit 3, comprising Bach Thong, Dinh Hoa, Na Ri, and Cho Don Districts, is to elect two deputies from three candidates:

1) Truong Thi Hong, chief of production team of Bach Thong forestry site, a member of the Tay ethnic minority group; 2) Duong Thi Nuoc, chief of production team of Dinh Hoa forestry site, a member of the (Ta Man) ethnic minority group; 3) Dam Van Nguy, member of the CPV Central Committee, Lieutenant General, and deputy commander of the 1st Military Region, a member of the Tay ethnic minority group.

Gia Lai-Cong Tum Province:

-- Electoral Unit 1, comprising Dac Lay, Sa Thay, Kon Plong, Dac To, Chu Par, Chu Prong, and Mang Giang Districts and Kon Tum city, is to elect three deputies from five candidates:

1) Vung Ben, deputy secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's committee of Mang Giang District, a member of the Ba-na ethnic minority group; 2) (Rocham Hamteo), member of the Standing Committee of the provincial Women's Union, a member of the (Gia-rai) ethnic minority group; 3) (Ksor Minh Tang), deputy secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee, a member of the Gie-Trieng ethnic minority group; 4) Y Mot, member of the CPV Central Committee, member of the Standing Committee of the provincial party committee, secretary of the Dac Lat District party committee, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly, a member of the Gie-Trieng ethnic minority group; 5) Y Suoi, animal husbandry engineer, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly, a member of the (Co-ban) ethnic minority group.

-- Electoral Unit 2, comprising Chu Pa, An Khe, Krong Pa, A Dun Pa, and Chu Xe Districts and Play Cu City, is to elect three deputies from among five candidates:

1) (Vu Trong Kim), member of the provincial party committee and secretary of the provincial Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; 2) Ksor Kron aka Nguyen Van Sy, member of the CPC Central Committee, secretary of the provincial party committee, and deputy to the Seventh National Assembly, of the Gia Rai nationality; 3) Dinh Kiet, member of the Standing Committee of the district party committee and vice chairman of the Party Affairs Committee of the south An Khe District, of the Ba-na nationality; 4) Nguyen Hong Vien, member of the provincial party committee, colonel, commander of the provincial border defense forces; and 5) Lai Hien, member of the Standing Committee of the district party committee and vice chairman of the Yen Gia District people's committee, of the Gia Rai nationality.

Dac Lac Province:

-- Electoral Unit 1, comprising Dac Rlap, Dac Nong, Dac Min, E Sup, Cum-ga, Krong Ana, and Krong-no Districts and Buon Me Thuot City, is to elect three deputies from among five candidates:

1) (K'Bo), member of the Standing Committee of the district party committee and chief of the Public Security Service of Dac Nong District, of the Mvong nationality; 2) Y Ngong Niek Dam, doctor of medicine, member of the Council of State, and deputy to the seventh National Assembly, of the E-de nationality;

3) Nguyen Thuong Vinh, member of the provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial State Planning Committee; 4) Pham Van Huan, member of the Standing Committee of the city party committee and chairman of the Buon Me Thuot City People's Committee; and 5) (Krangsto Mi Luoc), member of the party chapter committee and deputy director of the provincial War Invalids and Social Welfare Service, of the Mngong nationality.

-- Electoral Unit 2, comprising Krong Pac, E Aka, Mo Drac, Krong Bong, Lac, E H'leo, Krong Buc, and Krong Nang Districts, is to elect two deputies from four candidates:

1) Pham Minh Chinh, member of the provincial party committee, economics engineer, and general director of the Gia Nghia Forestry and Agricultural Union; 2) Pham Vu Hung, member of the provincial party committee and general director of the provincial Union of Coffee Enterprises; 3) (Ymia Myo) aka A Ma Pui, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee, of the E-de nationality; and 4) (Y Reat Blo Gongiu) aka (Ama B'hieng), member of the provincial party committee and chief justice of the provincial People's Court, of the E-de nationality.

Ha Son Binh Province:

-- Electoral Unit 1, comprising Mai Chau, Tan Lac, Yen Thuy, Lac Thuy, and Kim Boi Districts, is to elect three deputies from among five candidates:

1. Nguyen Nhieu Coc, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee, deputy provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee, of the Muong nationality; 2) Quach Thi Hien, engineer, cadre of the agricultural office of Yen Thuy District, of the Muong nationality; 3) Bui Thi Xon, engineer, deputy chief of the agricultural office of Lac Son District, of the Muong nationality; 4) Bach Thi Luan, chairwoman of the Women's Union of Kim Boi District, of the Muong nationality; and 5) Phan Ngoc Tuong, member of the CPV Central Committee and minister of building.

-- Electoral Unit 2, comprising My Son, Luong Son, and Da Bac districts and Hoa Binh City, is to elect three deputies from five candidates:

1) Duong Ngoc Duc, general secretary of the Vietnam Stage Artists Association and deputy to the Seventh National Assembly; 2) Nguyen Chi Thanh, chief of a production team of the Mien Tay Construction Corporation of Ha Son Binh; 3) Nguyen Cao Thang, director of the Agricultural-Forestry-Industrial Trade Credit Cooperative of Lien Son village, Luong Son District, of the Muong nationality; 4) Bui Xuan Thin, director of the Agricultural-Forestry Trade Credit Cooperative of Dong Phong village, Ky Son District, of the Muong nationality; and 5) Nguyen Huu Tuong, chief of the Tunnel Digging Unit of the Underground Project Corporation, the Da River Hydroelectric Power General Corporation.

-- Electoral Unit 3, comprising Chuong My and Quoc Oai Districts and Thuong Tin City, is to elect three deputies five candidates:

1) Nguyen Thi Lan Anh, head of the faculty of physics, Nguyen Hue General Middle School, Ha Dong City, 2) Nguyen Van Vien, deputy head of the forging and welding section of the Ha Son Binh machinery plant;

3) Du Thi Loan, alternate member of the Ha Dong city party committee, secretary of the Youth Union of the Ha Dong wood processing enterprise; 4) Dinh Thi Quy, teacher at the Quock Qai General Middle School; 5) Nguyen Co Thach, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of foreign affairs, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly.

-- Electoral Unit 4, comprising Than Oai, Ung Hoa, and My Duc Districts, is to elect three deputies from among five candidates:

1) Nguyen Van Hieu, member of the CPV Central Committee, director of the Vietnam Sciences Institute, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly; 2) Nguyen Ngoc Khoa, deputy secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's committee of Thanh Oai District; 3) Le Thi My, secretary of the Trm Loc village party committee, Ung Hoa District; 4) Mai Xuan Thanh, head of Xuan Lai village agricultural cooperative, My Duc District; 5) Pham Thi Tinh, engineer, member of the management committee of the Do Dong village cooperative, Thnah Oai District.

-- Electoral Unit 5, comprising Thuong Tin and Phu Xuyen Districts, is to elect three deputies from among five candidates:

1) Nguyen Chi Trung, alternate member of the Thuong Tin District party committee, head of the Quyet Thang pottery and porcelain cooperative in Thuong Tin District; 2) Dinh Binh Gia, member of the Thuong Tin District party committee, head of the control board of the Binh Minh lacquerware cooperative in Thuong Tin District; 3) Tran Van Khuyen, member of the provincial party committee, secretary of the provincial Trade-Union Federation; 4) Vu Ky, director of the Ho Chi Minh Museum; 5) Nguyen Van Tuy, head of the Phu Yen lacquerware cooperative in Phu Xuyen District.

Additional Candidates

BK301558 [Editorial Report] Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 1100 GMT on 30 March carries a 13-minute namelist of candidates for election to the Eighth National Assembly. The namelist says:

Phu Khanh Province has a total of 18 candidates. Among them are "Ha Dang, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee;" "Nguyen Van Dan, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" and "Hoang Huu Thai, major general, Navy deputy commander."

Thai Binh Province has a total of 25 candidates. Among them are "Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the CPV Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" "Tran Do, alias Ta Ngoc Phach, member of the CPV Central Committee, director of the party Central Committee Culture and Literature and Art Department, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" "Nguyen Duc Tam, alias Nguyen Duc Tien, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, secretary of the party Central Committee, director of the party Central Committee Organization Department, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" and "Nguyen Hoa, member of the CPV Central Committee, director of the Oil and Natural Gas General Department, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly."

Lang Son Province has a total of 9 candidates. Among them is "Hoang Truong Minh, member of the CPV Central Committee, chairman of the Nationalities Council, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly."

Quang Nam-Da Nang Province has a total of 28 candidates. Among them are "Tran Hanh, Air Force commander and standing member of the Air Force party committee;" "Nguyen Chon, member of the CPV Central Committee, Lieutenant General, 5th Military Region commander;" "Priu-Pram, member of the provincial party committee, secretary of the Hien District party committee, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" "Nguyen Thi Binh, deputy director of the party Central Committee International Department, vice chairman of the Committee for Solidarity with Afro-Asian People," member of the Fifth CPV Central Committee, dropped from the Central Committee at the Sixth CPV Congress in December 1986; "Ha Thi Thu Suong, deputy director of the provincial education service, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" "Hoang Minh Thang, member of the CPV Central Committee, minister of home trade, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" "Vo Chi Cong, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly;" and "Tran Van Dong, member of the provincial party committee, director of the Quang Nam-Da Nang provincial industrial service, deputy to the Seventh National Assembly."

NGUYEN VAN LINH ATTENDS HANOI CANDIDATES MEETING

BK281452 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] This morning, at the VFF headquarters in Hanoi, 49 Hanoi candidates for election to the Eighth National Assembly met for the first time with the representatives of the parties, the administration, the front, and the various mass organizations in the municipality in order to exchange with one another the plans for meeting voters in various electoral units.

General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, one of the 49 candidates was present at the meeting. Following a statement by professor Pham Khac Quang, chairman of the Hanoi VFF Committee, which pointed out the preparations in Hanoi for the upcoming elections, and after the introduction of various candidates, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh spoke on behalf of the Hanoi candidates. He voiced the honor of being able to run for election to National Assembly in Hanoi. He said: The Eighth National Assembly election takes place following the successful sixth party congress. The party congress has pointed out the very great scope that is to promote the laboring people's mastery. Therefore, in this National Assembly election, we must do in such a way to best promote the laboring people's mastery, especially in the selection of meritorious people from among the political parties and religious organizations who can represent the laboring people's voice in the agency of the highest power.

He also said: If the candidates are successful this time, they must fulfill the duty of a National Assembly deputy which means that they must satisfactorily fulfill their legislative work and supervise and control the operations of the National Assembly.

Also during this morning work session, the 49 candidates were dispatched to various electoral committees to exchange with one another their plans for meeting with voters in the coming days.

Meets Constituents

OW301941 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 30 -- Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and five other candidates of Ba Dinh and Hoan Kiem Districts in Hanoi to the forthcoming election to the National Assembly, had a meeting with their constituents this morning.

The meeting was arranged by the Vietnam Fatherland Front committees in the said districts. It was attended by large numbers of voters of different social strata: Workers, handicraftsmen, cultural, medical, scientific and educational workers, the youth, pensioners, etc.

In a frank discussion with the candidates many speakers, in the name of the electorates they represented, raised many questions having a direct bearing on the activities and life of their circles and asked the candidates, if elected, to submit their desiderata to the future National Assembly.

Nguyen Van Linh warmly acclaimed the frank suggestion of the voters. He said the deputies to the National Assembly are dutybound not only to reflect the aspirations of the people but also to contribute to the legislation and to discuss with their constituents measures of implementing the laws to be passed. He said: "I am the general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the leading party. But at the same time, as a deputy to the National Assembly, I must submit to the leadership of my electors".

AN GIANG DEPUTIES MEET VOTERS, HEAR PROBLEMS

BK290320 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] A National Assembly deputies delegation of An Giang Province recently held a meeting with voters of Long Xuyen and Chau Doc Districts. During the meeting, these deputies informed the voters of results obtained by various National Assembly sessions, of their desire to improve production and the people's daily lives, and of their efforts to fulfill the people's aspirations.

These National Assembly deputies and various echelons of the provincial party committees and the administration also solved some problems in their efforts to protect the people's legitimate interests.

At this meeting, representatives of the voters contributed various ideas to the National Assembly, asking it to propose concrete measures to improve socioeconomic development programs in compliance with realities, strengthen the inspection work of organizations responsible for implementing party and state positions and policy, truly respect democratic rights, and promptly solve the problems of workers.

HUYNH TAN PHAT INSPECTS LOCAL ELECTORAL PREPARATIONS

BK280844 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] A Voice of Vietnam correspondent has sent the following dispatch from Ho Chi Minh City: From 10-27 March, Comrade Huynh Tan Phat, vice chairman of the Council of State, chairman of the VFF Central Committee Presidium, and vice chairman of the Central Electoral Council, inspected preparatory work for the elections of the Eighth National Assembly and people's councils at the district, village, and corresponding levels in Ho Chi Minh City and the Provinces of Tay Ninh, Cuu Long, and Dong Thap.

Despite common economic difficulties and although having to carry out at the same time various major tasks such as reaping the winter-spring crops, planting the summer-fall rice, procuring grain, and carrying out troop recruitment, party committees, administrative bodies, and Fatherland Front committees at various levels in the aforementioned localities have made intensive efforts to rapidly and correctly carry out both in width and depth the directives of the Political Bureau and the Council of Ministers and the VFF guidance circular on preparatory work for the elections. By 20 March, the major preparatory steps -- such as nominating candidates, holding the first and second rounds of consultative meetings, collecting voters' suggestions, organizing meetings of national assembly deputies and people's councillors with voters, and announcing the namelists of candidates -- had been completed according to the law without any coercion or perfunctoriness.

After carrying out strict self-criticism, the delegations of National Assembly deputies and people's councillors from the four localities mentioned above received thousands of frank suggestions given by voters in a constructive spirit and with profound understanding. The people contributed their views and made suggestions concerning many issues, the most important of which are as follows: Elected representatives seldom meet voters. They are incapable, do not or dare not speak out the people's views, and fail to pay attention to resolving the pressing problems facing life and production such as prices for the collection and purchase of agricultural products, agricultural taxes, and the shortage and untimely distribution of supplies for production, especially agricultural production. Little attention is paid to public health, education, and the people's living conditions, especially in remote areas.

National Assembly deputies and people's councilors from the aforementioned localities seriously received the voters' suggestions and classified them according to issues so that the responsible echelons will take measures or seek ways to settle them. For instance, the 1st Ward, Go Vap Precinct, Ho Chi Minh City, will immediately repair a number of street sections leading to the local marketplace and school; running water will be supplied to a number of workers' living quarters in Vinh Long; more lighting will be provided to a number of inadequately lit streets; more electricity will be supplied to workers' living quarters; and so forth.

Beside localities whose preparatory work for the elections satisfactorily meet the requirements -- such as Duong Minh Chau and Hoa Thanh Districts, Tay Ninh Province; Hong Ngu and Thanh Hung Districts, Dong Thap Province; and the 1st Ward of Vinh Long, Cuu Long Province -- some localities, most of them city wards and villages in Ho Chi Minh City and Tay Ninh province, have committed shortcomings and errors in carrying out the various preparatory steps. For instance, candidates have been nominated in accordance with the old way; the number of women candidates in Tay Ninh, Cuu Long, and Dong Thap Provinces is generally small; and people's councilors in some places have been slow in making self-criticism before voters.

Comrade Huynh Tan Phat urged the localities having the shortcomings cited above to correct them immediately. At the same time, he called on them to urgently take the next preparatory steps -- especially organizing meetings between candidates and voters so the former can present their programs of action, and stepping up the dissemination of candidates' biographical data so voters can discuss among themselves and make their choice -- and create conditions to ensure that good results will be achieved on election day, 19 April.

STATE TEAMS INSPECT PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

BK301544 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Since early March, Central Electoral Council and Council of State inspection teams have visited various localities to inspect the preparations for elections of deputies to the Eighth National Assembly and councillors to district and village people's councils. Generally speaking, implementing Directive No 03-CTTU of the Political Bureau and Resolution No 779-HDNN/7 of the Council of State, the localities inspected by the teams have urgently and seriously carried out their preparatory work according to schedule as stipulated by the law.

On the basis of a thorough understanding of the spirit of the Political Bureau's directive, which requires renovation in the way of thinking and doing things to ensure that the elections be conducted in a truly democratic manner and in strict accordance with the law, the localities have made an effort to do a good job of organizing the screening of nominees and holding consultative conferences to nominate candidates for the elections. Voters in many collectives of working people and in grass-roots units have held lively discussions to recommend people to run in the elections. Several units, such as Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Uong Bi City, and so forth, organized votes of confidence as a means to choose candidates. The organization of meetings for delegations of the Eighth National Assembly deputies and district and village people's council members to review their work at the end of their terms has had a good impact, enabling the people to gain a better understanding of the position and role of the organs of state power at all levels and to clearly perceive the responsibilities of citizens for the building of the state authority.

The election inspection teams reminded the localities to promptly overcome their shortcomings in making preparations for the elections. They clearly pointed out the tasks to which the localities should pay attention so as to fulfill them in a satisfactory manner. These tasks are:

-- Step up propaganda work in connection with the elections to prompt cadres, combatants, and people to actively participate in the elections and in choosing trustworthy people for election to the Eighth National Assembly and the people's councils at the district and village levels;

-- Carefully check the lists of voters to ensure that all people who enjoy the rights of citizens to take part in the elections without exception; pay attention to satisfactorily solving the voting rights of people sent to new economic zones, fishermen, and travelers; and

-- Organize for voters to talk with candidates; satisfactorily organize meetings between candidates and voters so that the former may inform voters of the program of action they will carry out if they have the voters' confidence and are elected to the National Assembly and people's councils, and that the voters may convey to the candidates their feelings, aspirations, and suggestions.

The inspection teams advised the local party committees and administrations to pay greater attention to closely coordinating electoral work with the efforts to successfully implement the state plan right in the 1st quarter; to step up production, distribution, and circulation activities; to overcome negative phenomena; to reduce the difficulties in the people's life, especially the life of cadres, workers, civil servants, the armed forces, and retired cadres; to practice utmost economization and avoid all waste in organizing elections; and devise plans to satisfactorily protect the elections and ensure that they are held with absolute safety and good results in the entire country.

NHAN DAN SAYS WEINBERGER REMARKS SLANDERING USSR

OW270803 Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 27 — NHAN DAN today says that the U.S. defence minister's slanders against the Soviet Union on March 25 are aimed at playing down the importance of the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union. The paper says:

"The U.S. Defence Department's publication of this disparaging report at this point of time is also aimed at pressuring the Congress to adopt the 1988 and 1989 military budgets, at a time when many Senators are demanding the cutting down of important expenditures in its giant 300-billion dollar military budget this year. Those slanders are also aimed at poisoning the atmosphere of negotiation at the Geneva talks, and, furthermore, at diverting U.S. public opinion away from the "Irangate" and "Contragate" scandals which have dealt bruising blows at the political standing of the U.S. president himself".

The paper goes on: "Washington's slanders cannot distort the Soviet Union's military and foreign policies of peace and goodwill based on justice. The Soviet Union's military policy is one of a purely defensive character as General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev has stressed time and again. The only objective of that policy is to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Soviet Union, and consequently to defend the socialist community as a whole as well as peace and security in the world".

FOREIGN MINISTER DENIES USSR BASES AT CAM RANH

BK301654 Hong Kong AFP in English 1641 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi, March 30 (AFP) — Vietnamese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has denied that there are any Soviet military bases in Vietnam, saying Hanoi only provided "facilities" for the Soviet fleet.

He also rejected claims that the former U.S. base in Cam Ranh Bay, southeastern Vietnam, was now a Soviet military installation.

"There is no foreign base in Vietnam, but there are foreign bases around Vietnam," Mr Thach told a group of Western reporters.

"We give facilities to Soviet Navy ships, as (do) Singapore (and) Thailand, but not as (do) the Philippines," he added apparently referring to facilities provided to U.S. warships by Singapore and Bangkok, and to the presence of two large U.S. bases outside Manila.

Western experts consider Cam Ranh to be the biggest Soviet military base outside the Soviet Union.

The U.S. State Department claims that about 20 Soviet vessels based in the South China Sea, as well as submarines and MIG-23 warplanes, use the Cam Ranh installations.

HANOI BLAMES THAILAND FOR REGIONAL TENSION

BK270749 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Station commentary: "They Are Trying To Poison the Atmosphere of Dialogue in the Region"]

[Text] That some members of the Thai ruling circles are hysterically mouthing a fabricated story about Vietnamese Army volunteers in Cambodia intruding into and digging in on hills in the Chong Bok area, Ubon Ratchathani Province, Thailand, is nothing new; for they have previously cooked up similar slanderous charges. The same old tune is played again this time primarily to draw the Thai public's attention away from the very-growing internal contradictions within their ruling circles some members of which are continuing to act in complicity with the United States and reactionary forces in the region against the Cambodian people and the trend for dialogue by which the Thai people as well as peace-loving people in Southeast Asia and the world are setting much store. On the other hand, this gambit is also aimed at coping with the progressive Thai public's condemnation of the Thai authorities for allowing the United States to turn Thailand into a U.S. arsenal and for continuing to spend the laboring Thai people's money for additional purchases of a large quantity of Chinese arms, thereby pushing Thailand nearer to the brink of a war masterminded by reactionary forces outside the region.

By slanderously charging that Vietnamese Army volunteers in Cambodia have intruded into Thai territory, some members of the Thai ruling circles hope they can play up the so-called Cambodian question with the aim of checking the trend toward bilateral and multilateral dialogue that is strongly developing to the disadvantage of their own and international reactionary forces' design to drive countries in the region to confrontation so they can fish in troubled waters. Reality shows that the Thai ruling circles themselves have obstructed the settlement of the Cambodian-Thai border issue although Cambodia and other countries of the Indochinese Peninsula have many times advanced proposals full of goodwill and friendship with the aim of resolving this issue, such as the proposals to set up a safety zone along the Cambodian-Thai border and to settle the issue of Cambodian refugees in Thai border areas. Originating from a just and realistic stand that responds to the situation of each side and international custom, these proposals are warmly supported by public opinion in the region and the world. They are the very basis for promoting fine relations between Cambodia and Thailand as well as between the Indochinese countries and Thailand; and, at the same time, contribute to easing regional tension as expected by everyone.

However, all of these good-willed and friendly proposals by the PRK and the Indochinese countries have not received a positive response from Thailand. Some members of the Thai ruling circles continue to collude with the United States and international reactionary forces in pursuing a policy of confrontation against the Indochinese countries, creating tension in the region, and blocking the trend for dialogue. They continue to provide sanctuaries for the Cambodian counterrevolutionaries and give direct military support to the Khmer Rouge army remnants' operations against the Cambodian people. Thailand has continuously sent its aircraft and warships to encroach in Cambodia's airspace and territorial waters. On 14 February 1987 in particular, Thai reconnaissance aircraft made 17 spying passes over the 3-border junction area, flying 3 km deep inside Cambodia. Thai gunners have daily fired 20-100 large caliber artillery rounds at Hills 416 and 1271 in Pursat and Battambang Provinces. In February, Thai armed vessels on 109 occasions intruded 3-200 nautical miles deep inside Cambodian territorial waters around Koh Kong, Koah Tang, and Poulo Wai. In the 1st week of February alone, Thai troops provided support for the Khmer Rouge remnants to intrude into Cambodia on 49 occasions for sabotage activities against the people's peaceful life.

To boost their chances in the gamble to oppose the Cambodian people and replace dialogue with confrontation in the region, the Thai authorities have allowed the United States to set up arms stockpiles on Thai soil, continued to buy Chinese arms, and joined the United States in conducting military exercises both on land and at sea to threaten Cambodia -- such as the exercises code-named "Cobra Gold-86," "Logex-29," and particularly, the 23 February military exercise at the Cambodian-Thai border that was provocatively said to prevent attacks from Cambodia with the participation of 43 fighter aircraft, 18 warships, a submarine, and a large number of U.S. and Thai soldiers.

While taking such unethical and unfriendly actions, the Thai current actions by some members of the Thai ruling circles can neither cover up the truth nor distort the unswerving good-willed stand of the peoples of Cambodia and other countries on the Indochinese Peninsula with regard to the settlement of the Cambodian-Thai border issue. Such actions can neither help stabilize the internal situation of the Thai administration which is experiencing serious contradictions nor save the Khmer Rouge Army remnants from a total defeat in face of the constant growth of the PRK. Their slanders, far from poisoning the atmosphere of dialogue which is strongly developing in the region, will only bring the progressive Thai people into even more acute disagreement with their policy of continuing to act in complicity with international reactionary forces.

We hope that they will soon draw a lesson from this harsh experience.

NHAN DAN CALLS FOR GOOD ELECTORAL PREPARATIONS

BK271619 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Mar 87

[NHAN DAN 27 March editorial: "Inspect Preparations for the Elections"]

[Text] The elections for National Assembly deputies and people's councillors have been urgently and scrupulously prepared by the authorities at all levels, reflecting initial effort and progress in ways of thinking and doing to ensure true democracy and compliance with the law.

After holding consultative conferences to introduce candidates and establish voters lists, meetings of candidates with voters are being prepared in all localities to uphold the candidates' sense of responsibility and thereby help them clearly understand the people's minds and aspirations. Some grass-roots-level installations have promptly settled citizens' complaints about voters' rights and the candidates' personalities. Teams of cadres from the central electoral council have been dispatched to localities to control the preparations, remedy errors in holding grass-roots-level consultative conferences to introduce candidates, collect the people's views and remarks on candidates, and organize electoral units in villages and city wards.

Although renovating ways of thinking and doing is an important requirement of these elections, it is not at all simple to carry out such a renovation. In preparing for the elections, authorities in some localities are still trying to be coercive, to impose, and not to listen to the people's views. In other localities, the preparations have been mere formalities. As a result, voters have not met the candidates and do not know who the candidates are or anything about their qualities, abilities, and level of knowledge. In some cases, the authorities concerned have stressed only the structural composition of slates of candidates without paying attention to their qualifications even though the people have voiced disagreement.

In other localities, voters' questions about some electoral issues have not been satisfactorily answered. There have also been cases in which grass-roots-level cadres have failed to properly implement the election law by overlooking higher authorities' orders to settle the people's complaints. These shortcomings will lead to low quality and turnout in the elections.

To overcome this phenomenon of apparent democracy, it is necessary to intensify control work, actively prevent possible errors, and promptly settle citizens' complaints. This is mainly the process of implementing the guideline of letting the people know about, debate, work in, and control the elections.

The control work primarily guarantees the voters' right to elect meritorious people to various agencies of state power. The grass-roots-level preparations must be controlled to see whether or not every citizen has been given the necessary conditions to implement his right to mastery through his votes. The candidates' personalities, the way of conducting consultative conferences to introduce the candidates, and the preparations for voters to go to the polls must be controlled. It is the direct responsibility of all party committee echelons and the administration agencies to carry out these duties along with the control work of electoral councils at all levels. They must pay attention to every step of the preparation, especially the implementation of the electoral law before election day. While carrying out control work, they should quickly detect citizens' complaints and resolutely, promptly, and justly deal with all violations of the people's mastery and intentional infringement of electoral laws.

The important point is to create every favorable condition for the people to grasp firmly all the requirements and contents of the elections and the qualifications of candidates so that they can easily detect unqualified candidates -- those who have neither qualities nor abilities -- and file their petitions with authorized higher echelons.

The control process requires all sectors and echelons to uphold their sense of responsibility to the people and take specific and targeted action. This is particularly true with respect to various organizations of the party and administration and of the masses at the grass-roots level.

Facts have shown that citizens' complaints often involve cadres in high positions or concern many people in this and that domain. The responsible cadres in charge must deal with these complaints in a just and objective manner for the people's benefit. They must promptly and scrupulously consider these complaints to fulfill the people's legitimate aspirations.

In such cases, if the people's constructive attitude is not supported and leaders are biased or belittle the people's views, it is difficult to ensure true democracy in the elections. The leadership of all party committee echelons over this political campaign is specifically manifested through every step of preparation. As an immediate step, the party control work must be well combined with the state inspection task and control by the masses.

Control is a process of creating conditions for the people to promptly detect all coercive and dictatorial manners toward voters and to deal severely with all cases violations of the electoral law.

HANOI DECISION ON AUTONOMY IN PRODUCTION, BUSINESS DETAILED

BK280950 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] The people's committee of Hanoi municipality recently issued some regulations on the right to autonomy in production and business of state-owned industrial enterprises in localities. The regulations stipulate: Enterprises are annually allocated only two plan norms for main products and budgetary deliveries. With respect to those enterprises which receive no materials from the state and which perform service and repair operations, they will be allocated only the plan norm for budgetary deliveries.

Enterprises are authorized to look for their own markets if the designated consumers refuse to take the products. They are authorized to fix the prices of those experimentally produced goods, receive guarantee for the use of electricity, decide on the level of depreciation on their fixed assets or rent the fixed assets not being used, sell the fixed assets or financially settle the unserviceable ones, borrow foreign exchange, pay calorie-based salaries [trar luowng theo muwcs ca lo] to workers, and hire non-agricultural workers in accordance with the specific guidelines of the municipal authorities.

Enterprises are also authorized to buy patents on new products and scientific and technical innovations at agreed upon prices. Those exports-producing enterprises are authorized to sign contracts directly with foreign customers using their self-procured foreign exchange, and are exempt from delivering foreign exchange to the municipal authorities for two years.

An experimental election of directors will be conducted in some enterprises with favorable conditions.

BRIEFS

BUDDHIST CONGRESS HELD -- Hanoi VNA March 30 -- The second congress of the Ho Chi Minh City Chapter of the Vietnam Unified Buddhist Church was organized from March 26-27, in the presence of representatives of some 3,000 Buddhist monks, nuns and millions of believers. The congress reviewed activities of the chapter during the past five years and outlined a programme of action for the next three years. A new 25-member Executive Committee was elected with the Most Venerable Thich Thien Hao as head. In his inaugural address, The Most Venerable Thich Thien Hao emphasized the solidarity and unity among the various Buddhist branches and sects in Vietnam. He highlighted the great contributions of Buddhist monks, nuns, and laymen to the country's socialist building. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 30 Mar 87 OW]

AUSTRALIAANC'S TAMBO STARTS OFFICIAL VISIT IN PERTHAsks Stricter Sanctions

MB290605 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] The leader of the African National Congress, Mr Oliver Tambo, has called on Australia to impose stricter sanctions against South Africa. Mr Tambo also urged Australia to finance antiapartheid efforts, saying that violence will increase in South Africa until other countries are prepared to make a greater contribution. Mr Tambo arrived in Perth yesterday at the start of an Australian tour initiated by the Australian Federal Government. He was greeted by a cheerful crowd at the airport shouting: Viva Oliver Tambo and Welcome to Australia.

At a press conference, Mr Tambo said the present sanctions against Pretoria were not hurtful.

Bomb Scare Stops Rally

MB291055 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] In Perth, Australia, an anti-apartheid rally addressed by ANC President Oliver Tambo ended abruptly after a false bomb alert. Mr Tambo's 2-week visit to the country has already caused controversy, and outside the rally anti-ANC protesters with tires around their necks clashed with supporters of the outlawed organization.

Tomorrow Mr Tambo will appear in a debate on Australian television with the outspoken president of the Return Services League, (Steve Ruskin). Mr (Ruskin) was the biggest critic of Archbishop Tutu during his January visit, calling the archbishop a witchdoctor, and he has called the exiled ANC leader an even bigger witchdoctor.

Mr Tambo was greeted at Perth airport on Friday by several dozen former South Africans chanting amandla [power].

RESIGNATIONS LEAVE OPPOSITION 'IN DISARRAY'

BK260920 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] The federal opposition is in disarray following the resignation of Liberal frontbencher Senator Peter Baume. He is the second opposition frontbencher to do so in 4 days. Senator Baume, the opposition spokesman on community services and the status of women, says he cannot support a decision to oppose government legislation extending equal opportunity.

A Radio Australia reporter in Canberra, (Graham Weld), says the resignation has plunged the Liberal Party into a new crisis.

[Begin recording] [(Weld)] In his resignation letter, Senator Baume said he could not vote for the decision to oppose the Equal Employment Opportunity Commonwealth Authorities Bill. That decision, he said, was directly counter to views which he had put.

The opposition leader, Mr Howard, said suggestions that the opposition stance on the bill was due entirely to the views of the National Party members were nonsense. But Mr Howard admitted this much:

[Howard] I don't deny that the shadow cabinet discussion embraced the coalition factor as an issue. I don't deny that at all.

[Weld] Mr Howard said there were widespread objections to the bill in its present form within the Liberal and National Parties. Nonetheless a number of senior Liberals have reservations about opposing it. Ian MacPhee is away, but he is known to be very concerned.

Mr Peacock said today he was not in the mood for rocking the party to which he has a bounden duty at the moment. But he said he strongly supported the legislation, and in Parliament Liberal backbencher Steele Hall said he would be crossing the floor.

In the wake of today's resignation and Mr Peacock's sacking, Mr Howard faces further departures from his shadow cabinet after the National Party's Federal Council meeting this weekend. [end recording]

NEW ZEALAND

LANGE REGRETS UK'S POSITION ON NUCLEAR TREATY

HK290851 Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 21 Mar 87 p 60

[By political reporter Debra Sturm]

[Text] Prime Minister David Lange said today he found it difficult to accept Britain's view that signing the protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty would not be in its best interest.

"If anything, the United Kingdom should be interested in the stability and security of this region.

"That is what the treaty seeks to achieve and its authority would be enhanced by the support of those three Western nuclear powers -- Great Britain, the United States and France -- with which the countries of this region have long and friendly relations."

Mr Lange expressed "considerable regret" at Britain's decision not to sign the protocols. He said the UK had "strong and long-standing" ties with the region.

"It is therefore particularly disappointing that Great Britain has not given the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone and the countries of this region the acknowledgement and support that would be in keeping with those ties," he said.

The UK had indicated in its announcement that it was not currently acting inconsistently with the protocols, and had no intention to do so. That was a positive position, said Mr Lange.

"It would, of course, be most unusual for the UK to consider testing of nuclear weapons on Pitcairn Island," he said. (Pitcairn is the only territory under Britain's jurisdiction within the area covered by the treaty.)

But Mr Lange said adherence to the protocols was just a small step away from the position taken by Britain. Its adherence, in turn, would be a "gesture of great symbolic and substantive importance."

Mr Lange welcomed the UK's decision to sign a convention for the protection and development of natural resources and environment in the region. He said the region would continue to work with the UK, the United States and France to try and convince them "to take due regard of the interests of the South Pacific region and to adhere to the protocols of the treaty."

Opposition leader Jim Bolger said the fact that none of the Western nations had accepted the protocols diminished the impact of the treaty. He said that on his recent trip to Britain he had raised the treaty issue with Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Geoffrey Howe. At that stage no decision had been made. Mr Bolger said that to some extent the decision had been inevitable given the US and France had done the same. "It is disappointing for all that. It means that none of the Western nations have agreed to accept the protocols and that diminishes the impact of the treaty."

SOVIET POLICY IN PACIFIC EXAMINED

BK271101 Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 20 Mar 87 p 6

[Editorial: "Soviet Toe in Pacific"]

[Text] Exactly what Moscow has achieved by Mr Shevardnadze's swing through Southeast Asia we shall probably never know. What he has left among the non-communist nations of the region and the Soviet Pacific generally is little more than a feeling of unease. The message was very clear. Zones of interest hitherto only pencilled on the map of Soviet foreign policy are now being drawn in ink.

Since Mr Gorbachev's seminal speech in Vladivostok last July the Soviet Union has used every opportunity to impress on the rest of the world that it is a Pacific country, with a right to play a full role. The journey to Australia, Indonesia, Thailand and Indochina of Mr Shevardnadze, who is Mr Gorbachev's Foreign Minister and probably his closest ally in the Politburo, is a measure of the importance the Kremlin attaches to that policy, and of its determination to eradicate deep-rooted suspicions of Soviet motives.

Mr Shevardnadze's call on Canberra acknowledged Australia as the dominant power in the South Pacific. He did not come to New Zealand; he was not invited, probably because such a gesture by Wellington could have further strained our relations with Washington. Moscow seems to appreciate the point. It has generally refrained from publicly saying or doing anything that could be interpreted as an attempt to exploit the ANZUS rift.

But even without the issue of such invitations, relations between New Zealand and the Soviet Union have been growing warmer lately. The restoration of diplomatic links at ambassadorial level in 1984 nurtured the process, and, since the Vladivostok speech, Moscow has clearly indicated its desire to accelerate it. In recent months two important emissaries have come, not at the invitation of the New Zealand Government but as guests of the Soviet Ambassador in Wellington. Mr Kapitsa, a deputy foreign minister, called in August, and this month, as a sort of spin-off from Mr Shevardnadze's visit to Canberra, a deputy editor of the Communist Party newspaper PRAVDA spent a few days further disseminating the Soviet message of peaceful aspiration.

None of Moscow's recent efforts -- including the Shevardnadze tour -- has done much to dispel mistrust of Moscow's intentions in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Nothing short of a Soviet initiative leading to the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea is likely to do that. Even so, it would be a mistake to assume that under a new generation of leadership the Soviet Union is incapable of changing -- for the better in at least some ways.

MOKHTAR RULES OUT TIMOR TALKS WITH FRETILIN

BK261432 Hong Kong AFP in English 1421 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Jakarta, March 26 (AFP) -- Indonesia Thursday ruled out any peace talks with independence fighters (Fretilin) in East Timor, a former Portuguese colony which was incorporated by Jakarta into Indonesia in 1976.

Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja also said Indonesia would not launch a full scale military operation against the remnants of the Fretilin because of the casualties an offensive would involve.

"They (the Fretelin) are in no position to say anything. They have ceased to exist," Mr Mokhtar told reporters when asked about the possibility of peace talks before a national general election next month, the second in which East Timorese will vote.

Mr Mokhtar said that talks with Portugal on a diplomatic solution to the East Timor problem were still continuing through the United Nations but these had been off and on because of Lisbon's own reluctance. The United Nations still recognises Lisbon as the administering power of East Timor.

Recent reports from Lisbon have quoted Fretilin spokesmen there as saying they would make no attempt to disrupt the election, but that they wanted to hold talks with the government.

Mr Mokhtar described the fact that Portugal had raised the Timor issue in the European Economic Community, several of whose members give aid to Indonesia, as a "smokescreen" and said that Lisbon was unlikely to succeed. "We're ready for anything," he added.

The minister, who had just returned from two days of campaigning in East Timor for the ruling Golkar Party, said remnants of the Fretilin now totalled "500 people at the most," living in isolation in a jungle in the easternmost part of the island.

The government hoped they would surrender "bit by bit" and would not send the military after them because this could lead to many casualties, he added.

The minister said 90 Fretilin members recently gave themselves up and had told the authorities that they had not surrendered earlier because of fears of what the East Timorese population might do to them. "The population hates them for stealing their food and for intimidating people who do not support them," he said.

Mr Mokhtar also denied a recent claim by Fretilin representatives in Lisbon that Indonesia had raised the number of its troops in East Timor to 300,000 to ensure security during the elections. "That's much too many," he said without giving any precise figure.

In reply to a journalist's question on the possibility of foreign journalists covering the election in East Timor, Mr Mokhtar said "you must ask the proper authority," an apparent reference to the military. "I'd recommend that they (the foreign press) be allowed to visit East Timor," he added.

Foreign journalists covering the Indonesian election have been told that they have to get military clearance if they wish to go to East Timor.

MALAYSIAPAPER VIEWS U.S. EFFORT TO BLOCK MILITARY AID

BK271421 Kaula Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 24 Mar 87 p 10

[Editorial: "Obstruction of Military Assistance Not Hurting Relations"]

[Text] The chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee for Asia and Pacific, Mr Stephen Solarz, blocked the Reagan administration's proposal to extend a \$4 million (about M\$10 million) in military assistance to Malaysia because of our country's anti-Zionist policy. Solarz spoke on Malaysia's anti-Zionist attitude and said he considered it embarrassing. According to international news agency reports, Solarz said Malaysia's attitude has decreased sympathy in America.

Because the American Administration needs the authority of the committee to approve the assistance, it is clear that the assistance will not be given just yet. It is up to the Reagan administration to consider the issue and act according to its decision. If it feels that assistance should be given to Malaysia, then it is up to the committee to take the necessary steps. As noted by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the obstruction will not hurt our defense because the assistance only involves training.

Even though the assistance is considered important within the framework of exposing our troops to various forms of training, we should not be unnecessarily angered by the decision. We should respect America's decision, just as we want it to respect ours. This is the meaning of independence and freedom. We feel that it is not right for us to give up our policy and stand on any major issues such as Zionism, just for a mere \$4 million worth of assistance from the United States or whoever. If Mr Solarz feels that giving up our anti-Zionist policy will cost \$4 million, then he has every right to keep that assistance or give it to some other nation which he favors.

We feel that it is our responsibility as an Islamic nation to support efforts to find a permanent resolution to the Palestinian and West Asia issues. If the peace effort faces Zionist opposition, then we are forced to condemn Zionism. We are aware that ours is a small nation, but this does not mean that we must sacrifice our philosophy and stand just because it is disliked by certain parties, including Mr Solarz. This is what is meant by total freedom. We are thankful because we are not only an independent nation, but also a free one. This is one thing we have over the other developing nations.

Nearly all the other developing nations are not totally free. They do not have total freedom because they are faced with poverty either -- materially or in their ways of thinking. There are independent nations which are forced to become international beggars because they cannot afford to develop their nations and free themselves from the grip of the powerful nations of the eastern and the western blocs. Their independence is in name only. Without the assistance of the developed nations, their people would face starvation. There are independent nations which can afford to support themselves but they are continuously loyal to the western policy and philosophy because their leaders' thinking is still that of colonialism.

We are confident that the Reagan administration and the American people are not too ignorant to understand this easy issue, and we are confident that the opinions put forward by Mr Solarz do not represent the American people in general. We are confident that there are numerous other avenues in which Malaysia and the United States can cooperate, especially to the benefit of the two countries and the world in general..

The fact that we are sending numerous students to the United States proves that we are not brushing aside the West in our effort to project our own identity.

We are confident that cooperation in other fields, aside from the military, have proved positive in strengthening friendship. Moreover, military cooperation is not the major objective which is sought by Malaysia in its relations with the other friendly nations. Because we view defense from a wide and general context, cooperation in the educational, cultural, and trade between Malaysia and the United States is more relevant as these assist to strengthen defense and our perseverance. We should not magnify Stephen Solarz's blocking the \$4 million military assistance.

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON BALANCE OF TRADE WITH PRC

BK261139 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1113 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 26 (OANA-BERNAMA) -- The balance of trade between Malaysia and China from January to November last year was in China's favour to the tune of about 289 million ringgit (about U.S. \$115.14 million).

Deputy Trade and Industry Minister Kok Wee Kiat told the Dewan Negara (Senate) Thursday [26 March] trade statistics for this year were still not available.

He said trade promotion efforts by the government included sending trade delegations abroad and participating in trade exhibitions overseas.

Such efforts had shown positive results and had helped promote the sale of several Malaysian goods.

Kok said the joint effort by the government and Pemas Trading BHD [incorporated] in sending a delegation to the bi-annual Canton trade fair enabled Malaysian importers and exporters to discuss trade matters with their counterparts in China.

"The private sector should undertake follow-up measures to ensure the relations established by trade delegations will be maintained," he added.

PROTESTS OVER ATTACK ON SCAVENGERS AT U.S. BASE

HK310253 Hong Kong AFP in English 0248 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 31 (AFP) -- The Philippine Government has formally protested the use of trained guard dogs to attack scavengers at the U.S. Clark Air Base north of here, the Foreign Affairs Department said here Tuesday.

Deputy Foreign Secretary Manuel Yan gave U.S. Embassy Charge d' Affaires Philip Kaplan Friday a diplomatic note protesting two attacks that wounded seven young men in the sprawling Clark reservation this month, official spokesmen said.

Outgoing U.S. Ambassador Stephen Bosworth last week said Clark officials were investigating the incident and reviewing the policy of using trained dogs.

Attacks on scavengers in Clark and the U.S. Subic Naval Base, both located on Central Luzon, have caused periodic friction between the Philippines and the United States for decades.

AQUINO'S ENDORSEMENT OF VIGILANTES SEEN AS RISKY

HK300731 Hong Kong AFP in English 0634 GMT 30 Mar 87

[By Roberto Coloma]

[Text] Manila, March 30 (AFP) -- President Corazon Aquino's stamp of approval on unarmed vigilante groups spearheading a rural anti-communist backlash has put her on a potentially dangerous course, analysts here say.

The president, in a visit Sunday to insurgency-torn Davao City on Mindanao island, endorsed Nakasaka, a local movement that organizes villagers armed with long knives into patrols and intelligence networks to look out for rebels.

Speaking on the 18th founding anniversary of the communist New People's Army (NPA), she said she was happy with this use of "people power" by military-backed vigilantes, and pointed out that "they are not using arms."

Her open support for Nakasaka came amid warnings that the formation of civilian groups to watch rebel movements and counter their political influence could spawn fresh problems for the 13-month-old centrist government.

Francisco Nemenzo, a left-wing political science professor at the state-run University of the Philippines, said such groups could turn into criminal gangs, or a grass-roots fascist movement that could threaten Mrs. Aquino herself.

"This seems to be an admission that the government is incapable of protecting the people," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. "I think it is a perversion of people power ... a mockery of the concept of people power."

People power is the term used for the February 1986 military-civilian revolt that toppled the 20-year-old right-wing regime of Ferdinand Marcos.

"It can get out of hand and it can really be the core of a real fascist movement which is mass-based," Mr. Nemenzo said: "The moment she loses her popular support and becomes dependent on these quasi-military organizations, she is in greater danger of being overthrown."

Mrs. Aquino made it a point not to give open support to another Davao vigilante group, the Alsa Masa (masses arise), which has sparked controversy because some of its members are given automatic rifles and other firearms by the military.

While in Davao, she held a private meeting with leaders of Alsa Masa, which includes former communist rebels. Details of their talks were not available.

"It's only for our consumption," said Lieutenant Colonel Franco Calida, the Davao police chief and main backer of Alsa Masa.

Amando Doronila, editor-in-chief of THE MANILA CHRONICLE newspaper, wrote that Nakasaka and Alsa Masa constituted "a social and political experiment that is antagonistic to the policy of rebuilding democracy in this country".

He said such groups could be a cure worse than the disease, eroding the central government's authority and spawning anarchy and lawlessness without addressing the basic causes of the countryside-based insurgency.

But Alsa Masa has gained backing from conservative quarters amid charges that it has been involved in extortion and coercion.

Its leaders received pledges of funding running to thousands of dollars when they appeared in a popular television talk show in Manila last year.

Meanwhile, the Davao vigilante experiment is being duplicated elsewhere in the country where communist rebels have entrenched themselves.

A self-proclaimed spokesman for wealthy landowners on sugar-growing Negros Island said Saturday that they had formed a clandestine group of hit squads with military backing known as El Tigre to run after rebels.

Similar movements were earlier proclaimed to have been formed on Cebu Island near Negros, and on Northern Luzon, where the effort is led by renegade military officers involved in past coup attempts against Mrs. Aquino.

The Aquino government has so far not opposed the deep involvement of the armed forces in the formation of vigilante groups.

A Manila political expert who sought anonymity said Mrs. Aquino "is really playing straight into the trap of the Americans" who have been accused by the left of being secretly behind the formation of the vigilante groups.

Outgoing U.S. Ambassador in Manila Stephen Bosworth last week gave tacit approval to the vigilante groups, lauding them as expressions of civilian involvement in the anti-communist fight.

The Philippines hosts the two largest U.S. military bases overseas, Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, and receives some 200 million dollars a year in military and economic aid as rent for the Central Luzon installations.

AQUINO ACCEPTS MINDANAO REBEL LEADER'S SURRENDER

HK300309 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] President Aquino yesterday [29 March] accepted the surrender of a top Mindanao communist rebel leader and endorsed the legitimacy of the unarmed anticommunist citizens group fighting the NPA in Davao City and elsewhere in Mindanao. The surrender of the number two communist leader (Froilan Mauriel) in southern Mindanao to President Aquino was made in Davao City before the President addressed a Political rally for her senatorial candidates. The communist surrender was also the former leader of the NPA liquidation squad in Davao City. He surrendered last March 21st in dissatisfaction over internal contradictions in the communist party leadership and NPA atrocities. (Mauriel) was quoted as saying that he wanted leave the rebels because he found out his family safety is more important. (Mauriel) is being assisted by the government through the national rehabilitation and development program.

In endorsing the unarmed anticommunist movement, President Aquino also blamed leftist and the rightist elements for the instability in the country. She said those vigilante groups are examples of the people's power against communism. She said people's power can take care of the people without the use of arms. She also called for unity and for protection of the citizens against left and right extremist. Her remarks obviously referred to the Alsa Masa [People's Uprising] organization and the Nakasaka [People United for Peace] group of citizens who are actively fighting the NPA as vigilante groups in Davao City and other areas of Mindanao.

LEFT-WING CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE ARRESTED

OW291039 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 29 KYODO -- A left-wing congressional candidate and eight supporters of the People's Party (PB) were arrested in three separate police raids Sunday morning and afternoon in Manila's impoverished district of Tondo.

All those arrested, suspected of being subversives, are now detained in two suburban police precincts and are being held for "routine tactical interrogation," a policeman at the Western Police District (WPD) said. No charges were filed yet against those arrested. "Charges of illegal possession of explosives and ammunitions will follow." Patrolman Rogelio Cruz, of the WPD Intelligence Division, said.

The People's Party congressional candidate Alfredo Repuno and eight supporters denied allegations that the "guns, grenade, and a box of subversive documents," police said they found in the office of an urban poor organization near the office of the PB during one of the raids were theirs.

They said the guns, grenade, and documents were "planted" by the police in an attempt to discredit the PnB in its bid for the May congressional elections. The police said they did not plant the guns, grenade, and the box of subversive documents.

Further on Arrests

BK291242 Hong Kong AFP in English 1230 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Manila, March 29 (AFP) -- Police arrested nine members of a leftwing political party in a Manila slum district Sunday, four of them after a raid on a party campaign office, officials said.

In other incidents at least 12 people were killed and four wounded Saturday in separate clashes between government and NPA forces, the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said.

Five members of the People's Party (PnB) were arrested during a meeting early Sunday following the proclamation of its congressional candidate for Tondo District Saturday night, police Major Pacifico Villalino told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. [passage omitted]

Maj Villalino said no charges had been filed against the nine PNB members being held by police. They were undergoing "tactical interrogation" and were covered with a search warrant. He said the PnB members were being held because "We would like to find out their activities." He added that the arrests had "nothing to do with the campaign."

The PNB is fielding several candidates in May Senate polls. The Philippine leftwing is contesting elections for the first time in over 30 years.

Police Colonel Conrado Francisco said the raid on the campaign office followed a tip-off from informers that guns and explosives were hidden in the ZOTO [Zone One Tondo Organization] office. Two soldiers and five militiamen were killed when NPA guerrillas using bows and gasoline-doused arrows attacked a remote military detachment in northern Ilagan town Saturday, the PNA said, adding that two soldiers and a militiamen were wounded.

In neighbouring Cagayan Province, an Army corporal was wounded when rebels ambushed a minibus Saturday, the PNA said. In Pampanga Province north of Manila, government soldiers killed five NPA rebels in a gunbattle Saturday morning, the agency added.

Radio Report on Arrests

HK300711 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0330 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Police arrested 14 persons in suspected NPA hideouts in Manila. They also confiscated 2 grenades and 1 gun from the Partido ng Bayan [PnB -- People's Party] office in Tondo. The police raided the Zone One Tondo Organization, or ZOTO, which also serves as office of the Partido ng Bayan, following a tip-off that these guns and explosives were hidden in the place. Ten guns were also taken from the house of a suspected gunrunner in Paco. However, it is still uncertain where the other weapons and explosives are hidden.

Meanwhile, Partido ng Bayan said that seven of its members were arrested yesterday morning. A certain Allan Hernandez was arrested by the police during the Paco raid. He is believed to be a companion of the gunrunner identified as Leonardo Alipio. Two others, identified as Olivia Cruz and Rodolfo Gonzales, were also arrested in Paco. The Partido ng Bayan reported that its members were meeting outside the house of a member at around 0200 in the morning, when they were taken by the police.

Official Justifies Raids

HK301337 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 30 (AFP) -- A government official said Monday that a series of raids Sunday on offices and houses of members of a leftist political party were justified as they were suspected hide-outs of those involved in recent killings here.

"We're talking of safehouses where the suspects involved in assassinations of law enforcement agents are living," Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno told reporters at the presidential palace. He said President Corazon Aquino "felt that these raids were justified as long as they can prevent these assassinations."

The leftwing People's Party (PNB) [Partido ng Bayan], which is fielding several candidates in the May congressional elections, said eight of its members were arrested in a series of raids on their offices and homes Sunday.

In a press statement, the PNB said the raids were "an attempt to establish before the public eye that the (party) is linked to the armed revolutionary movement, specifically the communist party and its New People's Army (NPA)."

Former guerrilla leader and PNB senatorial candidate Bernabe Buscayno said the raids were "meant to derail the efforts of the party of the workers and the farmers to enter politics." The PNB has denied the military's charge that it is a communist front.

"The government has the right to protect," the policemen, Mr. Benigno said, adding that "you just can't gun down the law enforcement agents in public and then forget the whole thing."

Police found two grenades and a handgun in Sunday's raids, most of them conducted in Manila's Tondo District, a large shantytown and a known hide-out of the NPA's urban liquidation squads called sparrow units.

Manila police launched widespread operations against suspected sparrow unit members after a series of killings of at least seven police and military men in the capital this month.

Leftists Criticize Aquino

OW301109 Tokyo KYODO in English 1051 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 30 KYODO -- Philippine leftist leaders Monday accused the government of President Corazon Aquino of violating the Constitution and said the military is conditioning the people's mind to justify an anti-communist witch-hunt in Manila and attacks against "nationalist" candidates in the May 11 congressional polls.

The leaders of the Partido ng Bayan (People's Party -- PnB) are reacting to the arrest Sunday of party volunteers who are tagged by the police as members of the "sparrow units." They said a PnB campaigner has been killed in Aklan in central Philippines over the weekend.

The sparrows, the name of urban hit squads of the communist-led New People's Army (NPA), are blamed for the killing of 12 policemen in Metropolitan Manila since a 60-day nationwide truce ended early last month.

"We really wanted to test this democratic space [as received] but the way it's going, we're really finding it difficult," said lawyer Jose V. Bautista, a spokesman for the Alliance of New Politics (ANP).

"Nonetheless, it is not going to dampen our spirits. We are going to push through with this till the end," he said. He added that anti-communist vigilantes in Davao City in Mindanao in the south have been "waiting" for their candidates rally there.

The ANP is supporting seven bets in the 24-member Senate and 103 candidates for the 200 elective seats in the 250-member House of Representatives.

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Rafael Ilete urged professionalism in the military and asked the 156,000-strong armed forces not to take sides in politics.

"We must have a professional military... well trained in the skills and spirit of war capable of delivering the string of victories our commander-in-chief... said she expect from us," Ilete told Air Force soldiers at an early morning flag-raising ceremony at the suburban Villamor Air Base.

PnB senatorial candidate and peasant leader Jaime Tadeo said the Aquino government is violating the constitutional Bill of Rights by allowing the police to torture those arrested in the Sunday raid. Tadeo, a member of the commission hand-picked by Aquino to draft the Constitution, also said that Aquino violated the charter by endorsing the creation of anti-communist armed vigilante groups that the Constitution says should be abolished.

"These acts are meant to destroy the nationalists candidates ... who will be obstacles to the interests of the traditional politicians and foreign capitalists led by the Americans," said Alfredo Repuno, a PnB candidate for Manila's slum district of Tondo.

Repuno and 11 PnB volunteers were arrested by the Police in separate dawn and afternoon raids Sunday. Repuno said the guns and grenades seized during the raids were planted by the police who ransacked two private residences and an office of an urban poor organization.

Bautista said the police and military are trying to link the police deaths to the PnB through the Sunday arrests and seizure of firearms and weapons.

RAMOS MERGES RUCS INTO AREA UNITED COMMANDS

HK271138 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 27 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Regional Unified Commands (RUCs), the powerful umbrella units of all military and police agencies in the country's 12 regions, are being merged into Area Unified Commands (AUCs).

Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos said yesterday that the reorganization would "streamline operations, attain maximum flexibility, simplify and reduce cost of administering" military units in the field.

Each AUC covers at least two regions.

The reorganization started on Jan. 1 when Ramos created the Southern Luzon Command (Solcom) covering the Southern Tagalog (Region 4) and the Bicol (Region 5). Solcom is headed by Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla.

Yesterday, Ramos merged the Ilocos and Cagayan (Regions 1 and 2) commands into the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom), headed by Brig. Gen. Felix Brawner, RUC 2 chief.

Officers close to Ramos said the RUCs were created by former AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff Gen Fabian C. Ver to supercede the Constabulary regional commands under then PC [Philippine Constabulary] chief Ramos.

Ramos had felt that Ver was using soldiers to protect the interests of deposed President Marcos and his cronies, the officers said.

Meanwhile, Ramos has also approved a recommendation to train incoming Philippine Military Academy (PMA) cadets at Camp Servillano Aquino in Tarlac. This would be the first time that training of PMA cadets would be held outside the PMA grounds in Baguio City since 1905.

RAMOS AGAINST COMELEC'S RESOLUTION ON SOLDIERS

HK300646 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0330 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] General Fidel Ramos criticized the Comelec's [Commission on Elections] resolution against soldiers carrying firearms and wearing their uniforms outside the military camps until the end of the campaign period and the election. Ramos also condemned the Comelec for not consulting the Armed Forces regarding the delicate issue which could prevent the soldiers from rendering their services. He said that if the approved resolution is carried out the Armed Forces will not be able to respond immediately in the event that the NPA attacks during the election period.

BULLETIN REPORTS DETAILS FOR DEBT RESCHEDULING

HK291735 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 Mar 87 pp 1, 25

[Text] New York -- The Philippines and its advisory committee of foreign bank creditors have reached agreement on a rescheduling of \$10.3 billion of public-sector debt, Finance Minister Jaime Ongpin said.

He said the debt will be restructured over 17 years with 7 1/2 years' grace.

The interest rate will be 7/8 point over the London interbank offered rate, Ongpin told a press conference held at Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co., chairman of the 12-bank advisory committee.

As part of the deal, banks will have an option to convert their cash interest payments into Philippine Investment Notes (PINS), which may be used to finance on attractive terms government-approved equity investments in the Philippines.

The Philippines had originally proposed a two-tier interest payment scheme, under which bank creditors might have been able to receive a higher rate of return if they took partial payment in PINS, instead of all cash.

However, the banks balked at such a plan, fearing that it may create a precedent for other larger debtors to avoid paying interest in cash.

The banks also agreed to roll over a \$3-billion trade facility on which the interest rate was reduced to 3/4 point over Libor from 1-1/4. The 7/8 point margin on the overall rescheduling compares with the 1-5/8 point spread on a 1985 debt rescheduling and 1-3/4 on a 1985 new bank loan of \$925 million.

Ongpin said that the reduced interest margins will save the Philippines \$931 million over the 17 years of the rescheduling.

He predicted that PINS issues would help conserve another \$1 billion of foreign exchange outflows.

Ongpin acknowledged that the 7/8 point interest rate spread is higher than the 5/8 point maximum he had earlier vowed to obtain and the 13/16 point margin won by Mexico in a recent refinancing package.

However, he said, the deal with an improvement on Mexico's due to the novel PINS component, which will enable Manila to fund current interest payments on its foreign debt in the secondary market and reduce the need to draw on its currency reserves.

"We are delighted with the deal," he said.

The \$10.3 billion being rescheduled comprises \$5.8 billion of previously restructured debt, \$3.5 billion of 1987-1992 maturities, and the \$925-million 1985 bank loan.

If the Philippines fails to pay the principal amortizations agreed with the banks, the interest rate margin will rise to one pct, Ongpin said.

The rate reductions are retroactive to Jan. 1.

Ongpin said the Philippines had also agreed to an "enhanced monitoring" of its economy by the International Monetary Fund once its 18-month standby agreement with the Fund runs out in April, 1988.

Ongpin said he expects no financing gap before the end of 1988 at the earliest, and if PINS prove to be a success, Manila may not need to return to the banks again.

But, if the Philippines does need new money, the banks have indicated that they believe the "shared funding" principle endorsed recently by the World Bank and creditor governments represents a constructive framework."

Accordingly, the Philippines expects that future capital requirements will be satisfied from both official and commercial banks sources in a balanced manner, Ongpin said.

David Pflug, the Manufactures Hanover banker who chaired the advisory committee, said the panel was happy to embrace PINS as a voluntary conversion option.

But it had rejected PINS as originally envisaged by Ongpin because the task of selling the debt package to all 483 creditor banks worldwide would have been made more difficult.

Also, Pflug acknowledged, "no institution wanted to set a precedent, either directly or indirectly, where banks take paper or a computer entry for interest."

Ongpin, however, said other debtors are likely to learn from the Philippine package.

"The PINS innovation with its debt for equity element, and the dramatic cut in interest rates in this financing package, have opened a new avenue not only for ourselves but for all parties who seek a negotiated patch through the debt crisis," Ongpin said in a statement distributed to reporters.

He said his negotiating team had been committed to stem the drain of resources imposed on the Philippines by the "excessive borrowings" of the government of former President Ferdinand Marcos.

Now, the present government of President Corazon Aquino would concentrate on domestic priorities such as land reform.

The deal, which bankers said was finally clinched yesterday morning when the last members of the committee gave their assent, capped more than four months of talks.

The original round of negotiations broke up in November because of what Ongpin angrily called the "intransigence" of one or two banks. Bankers said at the time that Citibank had led resistance to the terms that a majority of the committee wanted to offer Manila.

MNLF TO CONTINUE MINDANAO NEGOTIATIONS

HK301145 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1000 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] The MNLF will return to the negotiating table. This statement was issued today by MNLF chief negotiator Habib Hashim in an interview with DXMM-Jolo. It is recalled that the MNLF warned of possible trouble because of the government's refusal of some of its requests, among which are: the granting of full autonomy to the whole Mindanao region, including Palawan and Sulu, and the granting of full control of 85 percent of the military in Mindanao to MNLF leader Nur Misuari. But according to government chief negotiator Emmanuel Pelaez, Misuari is only after the ownership of Mindanao and separation from the Republic. MNLF negotiator Habib Hashim said the talks in Tagaytay City were suspended in order to give both panels chance to consult their respective groups. He emphasized that the talks between the two panels on the Mindanao peace issue will still continue. Previous to this, the MILF, the faction opposing the MNLF, expressed its desire to participate in the peace talks. It was reported that MILF leader Hashim Salamat is expected to arrive in the country to talk to President Aquino.

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